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A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILTS

OF HYDE PARK, NEW YORK

By

Charles W. Snell,
Historian

Dated: April 1, 1954

pp 89

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NEWTON B. DRURY,

Director.

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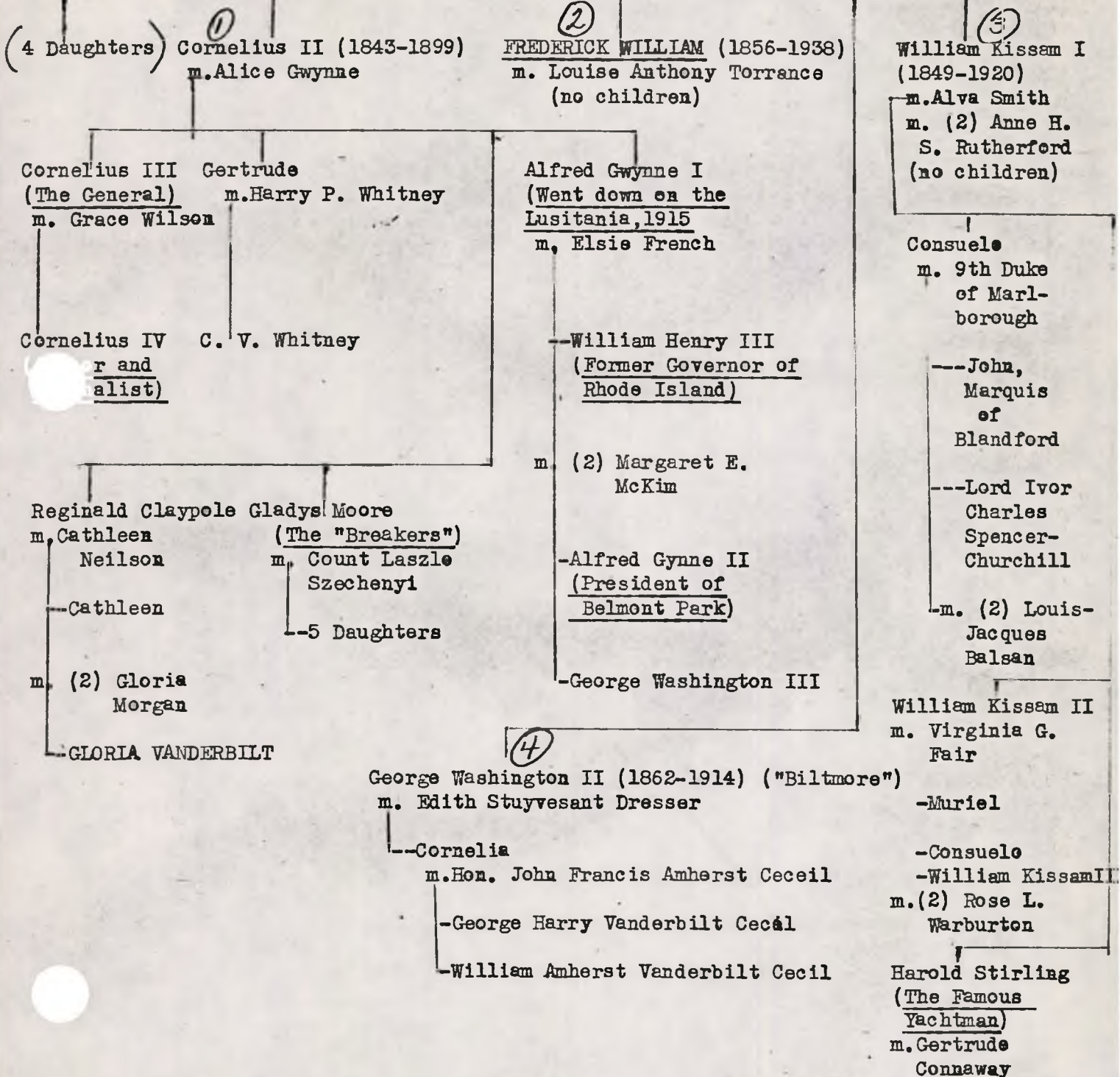
THE VANDERBILT FAMILY TREE

CORNELIUS VANDERBILT I (1794-1877), "The Commodore"
 m. Sophia Johnson m. (2) Frank Crawford (no children)

3 Other Sons

WILLIAM HENRY I (1821-1885)
 m. Maria Louisa Kissam

8 daughters



Based on Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend

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To Fredericka Vanderbilt ^{Jones} ~~A~~ piece, 5 shares: \$1,027,449.45

To. James Wilson ~~Vanderbilt~~ Webb, Nephew, 2 shares: \$513,724.73

To. Vanderbilt Webb, nephew, 2 shares: \$513,724.72

2

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT 1856 - 1938

Frederick W. Vanderbilt was the third son of William Henry Vanderbilt I and Louisa Kissam Vanderbilt, and a grandson of the founder of the family fortune, Cornelius Vanderbilt. Frederick W. Vanderbilt was born on February 2, 1856. /

Mr. Vanderbilt showed a strong interest in literature as a youth. He was the only one of the four brothers to enjoy a college education. He graduated from the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University in 1878. 2

Then began his education in railroading, The Vanderbilt sons, as a matter of course, became railroad men. He entered the offices of the New York Central, his father's railroad, and in one department after another acquired a thorough knowledge of the business. He was a director for 61 years.

At first, however, his was not a "front-office" job with a name-plate on the door and negligible office hours. He worked in minor jobs, submitted to the usual rules and regulations of the various offices, and won the commendation of department heads for his industry and application.

His training completed, he spent several years in active work, but thereafter, he devoted less and less time to business and more time to world traveling and yachting, which is almost as fixed a Vanderbilt tradition as railroading.

2936 A In 1880, Frederick married Mrs. Albert Torrence, the former Louise Anthony, a member of an old and prominent family. She died in Paris in 1926.

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT AS A BUSINESSMAN

Like his father, William Henry Vanderbilt, and his brothers, Cornelius II, William K. Vanderbilt I and George Washington Vanderbilt, he was thoroughly grounded in the science of railroading, but he was unlike them in that he shunned the limelight of publicity and social life, preferring a quiet career of travel and the life of a country gentleman to the active participation in the extensive business affairs of his family. 3

2944 On the death of his father, William Henry, December 8, 1885, Frederick inherited \$16,000, 666 with which to start in business. 4

DATA ON F. W. VANDERBILT'S BUSINESS CAREER:

1. About 1900, he invested in company with J. B. Haggin, D. O. Mills, Henry C. Frick, J. P. Morgan, H. Mck. Twombly, and the estate of George Hearst, in the Cerro de Pasce copper mines.

2. On revenues earned in 1923, F. W. Vanderbilt paid a Federal income tax of \$800,129.60.

3. On revenues earned in 1924, he paid a Federal income tax of \$792,896.00. He ranked as seventh highest on the list of the nation's assessed. Only John D. Rockefeller II, Henry Ford, Andrew W. Mellon, Payne Whitney, E. S. Harkness, and R. B. Mellon contributed more than he. 7

4. He attended with regularity the annual meetings of railways. He served 61 years on the board of the New York Central and 56 years on the board of the Chicago & North Western Railroad. 8

5. At the time of Frederick W. Vanderbilt's death in 1938, he was a director of twenty-two railroads, the Western Union Telegraph Company, Hudson River Bridge Company, Detroit River Tunnel Company, and the New York State Realty and Terminal Company. He followed the family tradition in keeping his business interests closely tied up with the transportation industry. His chief holdings were in New York Central Railroad, and directorships in other railroads stemmed from that system, with which the name of Vanderbilt has been linked since its beginning. 9

DEATH OF FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT, JUNE 29, 1938

Frederick W. Vanderbilt died at his Hyde Park Mansion on Wednesday morning, June 29, 1938, after a week's illness. He was 82 years old. Funeral services were held at his residence, 1025 Fifth Avenue, New York City, on Friday, July 1, 1938, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. He was buried in the Vanderbilt mausoleum at New Dorp, Staten Island. 10

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT'S FORTUNE AND THE SETTLEMENT OF HIS ESTATE

His fortune at the time of his death (June 29, 1938) amounted to \$72,588,284.00 (He had started with \$10,000,000 in 1885). This amount increased by \$4,250,246.00 in the period of the 15 months following his death until the estate was settled on September 15, 1939. The Frederick W. Vanderbilt fortune thus totaled \$76,838,530.00 when settled. Of this total, inheritance tax assessments totaled \$41,272,109.00, (\$30,372,109.00 went to the Federal Government and \$10,900,000.00 to New York State). This left \$35,566,421.00 to be used for paying all other expenses and legacies. The principal remaining in the hands of the executors after having done this amounted to \$20,548,989.00 of which \$4,053,055.00 was in cash and the remainder in other property. 11

The \$20,548,989.00 remaining, was established as a trust fund of 100 shares and divided as given below.

SETTLEMENT OF FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT'S ESTATE, SEPT. 15, 1939

Total estate - - - - - \$76,838,530
Minus Federal Inheritance Tax - - - - - 30,372,109
Minus New York State Inheritance Tax - - - - 10,900,000
Leaves - - - - - \$35,566,421

Minus legacies paid - - - - - 13,440,279
Leaves - - - - - \$22,125,142

Minus creditor's claims - - - - - 667,520
Minus losses - - - - - 96,673
Minus Federal Income Tax for 1938 - - - - - 566,098
Minus New York State Income Tax for 1938 - - 29,108
Minus administration expenses for attorney - 150,000
(Gasser, Ferris & Anderson)
Leaves - - - - - \$20,625,743

Total residue estate was - - - - - 20,548,989 / 2
Leaves - - - - - (unaccounted for) - - \$ 76,754*

* This figure may be the charges of the U. S. Trust Company,
executor for the Estate.

WHERE THE MONEY WENT: Residue estate - \$20,548,989 - 100 share trust fund / 3

1. *Mrs. V. H. Eward* Rose A. H. Eward, niece : United States Steel Corporation,
preferred stock, 4,000 shares,
worth - - - - - \$ 420,500.
5 shares or 1/20 residue 1,027,449.45
Total \$1,447,949.45
2. *Mrs. N. S. Allen* Margaret Louise Van Allen: Real property on Fifth Avenue,
niece (1025 Fifth Avenue House; the site
of the present Arnold, Constable
& co. at 5th Avenue & 40th Street;
the estate of 673 acres at Hyde
Park (except the Wales Place) and
other real property
appraised at ** - - - \$2,274,000.
specific personal
property appraised at 342,926.
25 shares or 1/4 of
residue estate - - - - 5,137,247.25
Total - - - - - \$7,757,173.25
3. William Seward Webb, a life trust of 10 shares or 1/10
nephew, of Delray Beach, of residue estate \$2,054,898.90
Fla.

4.	Herbert C. Shears, Supt. of Hyde Park Estate	the Wales House, 3 acres and cash	\$ 250,000.
5.	33 other Hyde Park employees of Mr. Vanderbilt who had been with him at least ten years at time of his death received cash		\$ 101,000
6.	Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University	20 shares or 1/5 residue estate	\$4,109,797.80
7.	Vanderbilt University Nashville, Tenn.	15 shares or 3/20 residue estate	\$3,082,348.35
8.	Salvation Army for Eastern District Territory, N. Y. C.	1/20 residue estate	\$1,027,449.45
9.	Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor	1/40 of residue estate	\$ 513,724.725
	Leaves	(unaccounted for)	\$ 207,647.075

HOW FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT HAD INVESTED HIS FORTUNE. Sept. 15, 1939

1.	New York City bonds with accrued interest - - - -	\$29,718,899	17
2.	New York State bonds valued at - - - - -	18,784,625	14
	Total - in Federal non-income bonds (tax)	\$48,503,524	
3.	Tobacco: 10,500 shares of American Tobacco Company common, appraised at - - - - -	815,062	14
	8,000 shares of B common of the same company worth - - - - -	604,000	14
	Total in Tobacco - - - - -	\$ 1,419,062	
4.	Steel: 17,000 shares of Bethlehem Steel common, valued at - - - - -	986,000	14
	1,068 shares of 7 percent preferred stock of the same company, listed at	101,193	14
	Total in Steel	\$ 1,087,193	
5.	Mining: 25,000 shares of Cerro de Pasco Copper Corporation capital stock - -	\$ 1,087,500	14
	9,568 shares of Homestake - - - - -		15
	Total in Mining - - - - -		
6.	Banking 3,500 shares of Guaranty Trust - - - -		15
	8,000 shares of Irving Trust - - - -		10
	Total in Banking - - - - -		
7.	Oil: 26,114 shares of Standard Oil of Calif.		15

8. Railroads: 43,000 shares of Pittsburgh & Lake Erie \$2,138,400 /4
 7,000 shares of Baltimore & Ohio Common /5
 20,000 shares of North Western Common /5
 10,000 shares of North Western Preferred /5
 20,000 shares of Lackawanna /5
 3,000 shares of Erie /5
 53,750 shares of New York Central /5
 25,000 shares of Pullman /5
9. In his checking account at the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Frederick W. Vanderbilt maintained a balance of over \$3,000,000. /5

THE PHILANTHROPY OF FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT

While the Vanderbilt name was well-known to the general public, as an individual, Frederick Vanderbilt was unknown. He preferred it thus. During his lifetime, he had given millions of dollars to philanthropy, but avoided personal connection with his benefactions. His name would be listed opposite generous amounts in various drives and campaigns, but he avoided personal exploitation. /6

Mr. Vanderbilt was primarily interested throughout his life in giving to three institutions:

1. Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University: He graduated from this school in 1878. His gifts were as follows:
 - 1902 - built a dormitory /7
 - 1903 - built a dormitory /8
 - 1908 - gave \$50,000 for buying additional land for Vanderbilt Square /9
 - 1909 - gave several thousands to school 20
 - 1910 - became a candidate for Trustee of Yale Corporation 21
 - 1913 - gave \$60,000 for housing St. Anthony Society of Sheffield Scientific School 22
 - 1914 - gave Yale \$100,000 for a business course 23
 - 1929 - gave money for purchase of additional ground for Sheffield Scientific School 24

Altogether he gave more than \$1,000,000 for the construction for dormitories. 25 Under his will he left the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, one-fifth of his residuary estate amounting to a trust fund of \$4,109,797.80. He also provided, in the event that Mrs. Van Alen, who received one-quarter of the residuary estate, did not dispose of her interest by will, that her principal should pass to her two sons; but in the event that they were not living, it should go in equal proportions to Vanderbilt University and Sheffield Scientific School. 26

2. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.: During his life time, Frederick W. Vanderbilt bestowed \$500,000 on Vanderbilt University. 27 Under his will he left Vanderbilt University 3/20 or 15 shares of the trust fund of his residuary estate, amounting to \$3,082,348.35. He also provided, in the event that Mrs. Van Alen, who received one-quarter of the residuary estate, did not dispose of her interest by will, that her principal should pass to her two sons; but in the event that they were not living, it should go in equal proportions to Vanderbilt University and Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University. 28

3. Vanderbilt Clinic, Columbia University: The Vanderbilt brothers, including Frederick, in 1886 donated \$250,000 toward the erection of a clinic at Columbia University in memory of their father, William Henry Vanderbilt. In 1889, they purchased for the University, the lot bordered by 59th and 60th Streets and 9th and 10th Avenues. They then presented \$350,000 for the enlargement of their hospital and \$115,000 as an endowment. In 1926, Frederick and his nephew, Harold, subscribed \$500,000 for the rebuilding of the Vanderbilt Clinic. 29 And in 1927, Frederick Vanderbilt pledged \$350,000 more. 30

OTHER GIFTS OF FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT:

1. In 1918, he contributed \$100,000 to the Red Cross War Fund. 31
2. In 1922, he contributed \$100,000 to the Y. M. C. A. 32
3. In 1926, Mr. & Mrs. Vanderbilt donated \$100,000 towards the completion of the Cathedral of St. John's, the Divine. 33
4. In 1926, he gave \$10,000 to the annex fund of the Seamen's Church Institute. 34
5. In 1926, after the death of Mrs. Vanderbilt, her will provided a \$300,000 trust fund for the Saint Anthony Home for Working Girls in New York City. 35
6. In 1931, Frederick W. Vanderbilt donated \$50,000 for New York City unemployment relief. 36
7. Other gifts mentioned in Obituary of F. W. Vanderbilt, June 30, 1938. " he helped build the Sloan Hospital for Women; built the A nthony Home for Working Girls, and made many lesser donations through the years." 37
8. In his will, Frederick Vanderbilt left the Salvation Army for the Eastern District Territory, New York City, 1/20 of his residuary estate in a trust fund amounting to about \$1,027,449.45. 38
9. In his will, Mr. Vanderbilt also left the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, 1/40th of his residuary estate in a trust fund amounting to about \$513,724.73. 39

10. Another famous deed of Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt may be mentioned here; this was her annual Thanksgiving Day dinner for newsboys and messenger boys of Newport, R. I. This event, she supported every year from 1891 to her death in 1926. ^{7C} The dinner was held in Masonic Hall and was arranged by the King's Daughters. Mrs. Vanderbilt sometimes attended in person, but usually she did not. There were usually about 350 boys entertained at each year's dinner. A orchestra played music to which the boys marched into the Hall. After dinner, the orchestra again played and the boys sang. ⁴¹

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT'S MANSIONS

1895 - 1938

GENERAL INTRODUCTION. USE OF: 42

Although Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt owned many mansions during their lifetime, they actually used and operated only three residences at any one time from 1895 to 1926. These were:

1. A New York City Mansion: This was primarily used as a winter home. The Vanderbilts would go to New York City about the middle of November and stay there until January. Christmas and Sundays in this period were usually spent at their Hyde Park Mansion. March and April of each year were usually spent at Palm Beach, Florida, on their yacht, where they would cruise in southern waters. For variety, Mr. Vanderbilt would sometimes lease a large estate in California for March and April, the Vanderbilts making their trip to and from California in their own private railroad car.

2. A Spring and Fall Mansion: This was the Hyde Park estate. The Vanderbilts would usually come to Hyde Park in April and stay there until shortly after the Fourth of July. They would return to Hyde Park shortly after Labor Day and stay there until about the middle of November, leaving at that time for New York City. They sometimes spent Thanksgiving at Hyde Park Mansion and usually spent Christmas and Sundays there during the winter. After the death of Mrs. Vanderbilt, August 20, 1926; Mr. Vanderbilt appears to have spent his summers at Hyde Park, or for variety, cruising on his yacht.

3. A Summer Mansion: From 1895 to 1926, summers were usually spent at a summer residence (Fourth of July to Labor Day) although for variety, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt would sometimes spend the summer in Europe with their yacht. The Vanderbilts owned a series of summer mansions (1. "Rough Point" at Newport, R. I.; 2. "Japanese Camp", Upper St. Regis Lake in the Adirondacks; 3. A mansion at Bar Harbor, Maine - see following sheet for details). They actually used and operated only one of these summer residences at a time. Sometime shortly after the death of Mrs. Vanderbilt in 1926, Mr. Vanderbilt sold the camp at Bar Harbor, Maine, and thereafter, spent his summer either at Hyde Park or cruising on his yacht.

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT'S NEW YORK CITY RESIDENCES

1. 1885 to 1914 - 459 Fifth Avenue House (Fifth Avenue & Fortieth St.)

Frederick W. Vanderbilt lived, while in New York City, at 459 Fifth Avenue. He inherited this house from his father, William Henry Vanderbilt, who died December 8, 1885.⁴³ In December of 1914, F. W. Vanderbilt leased the 459 Fifth Avenue house to Arnold, Constable and Company, who immediately razed the house and erected a new store on its site.⁴⁴ F. W. Vanderbilt still owned this site at the time of his death, June 29, 1938.⁴⁵

2. November 1913 to June 1914 - Ritz-Carlton Hotel, New York City.

From November, 1913 to June 1914, the Frederick W. Vanderbilts⁴⁶ resided at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, New York City. They probably lived there while arranging to lease their 459 Fifth Avenue home and to lease a new house. In any case they gave two parties for important people at the Ritz-Carlton in May and June of 1914.⁴⁷

3. October 1914 to 1917 - Park Avenue and 73rd Street House.

In October of 1914,⁴⁸ Frederick W. Vanderbilt leased the residence of Mr. Oakleigh Thorne at Park Avenue and 73rd Street, and continued to live there until 1917.⁴⁹

4. 1917 to June 1938 - 1025 Fifth Avenue House.

In 1917, Frederick W. Vanderbilt purchased the palace which Ogden Codman had designed for General Lloyd S. Brice.⁵⁰ Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt entertained extensively at this house (see December 21, 1919 for example).⁵¹ Mr. Vanderbilt continued to reside there until his death, June 29, 1938. His funeral services were held at this town house, on July 1, 1938 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.⁵² The 1025 Fifth Avenue house was sold by Mrs. Van Alen on January 18, 1939.⁵³

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT'S SUMMER RESIDENCES

1. "Rough Point", Newport, Rhode Island. 1891 to 1906

At Newport, Frederick W. Vanderbilt commissioned Peabody & Stearns to design a mansion. He opened that home, called "Rough Point" in the summer of 1891 with a fete which burned 10,000 candlepower in lights. On that evening, he illuminated with calcium the rustic bridge opposite his manor. Then, after strewing 2,000 roses along the stairways leading to his parlors, he offered the elite whom he invited music from a Swiss organ and from Hungarian and Casino bands.⁵⁴

By 1895, however, apparently Mr. Vanderbilt had become tired of "Rough Point" as he spent considerable time at Hyde Park during that and following summers and the summer of 1899 in Europe. The Vanderbilts visited "Rough Point" briefly in the fall of 1899 and the summer of 1901.⁵⁵ Other than this, the mansion seems to have been used mainly by Mrs. Thomas H. Howard, a niece of Mrs. Vanderbilt, as a summer residence.⁵⁶ In 1902, the Vanderbilts began spending their summers in the Adirondacks.⁵⁷

On December 3, 1906, Mr. Vanderbilt sold "Rough Point" to Mr. and Mrs. William B. Leeds, tinplate magnate of New York City, for \$500,000. The Newspaper reported at that time: " 'Rough Point', which is taxed for \$333,300 and is one of the show places of the famous summer resort, has been in the market for some years. It has not been occupied by the Vanderbilts for eight years . . . The property includes 393,519 square feet of land on Bellevue Avenue, the beautiful highway of Newport, and on the cliffs on which the stone villa stands, and 3,147 square feet of land on Lakeview Avenue, where the stables are situated." ⁵⁸

2. "Japanese Camp", Upper St. Regis Lake, Adirondacks 1902 - 1913

In the summer of 1902, having apparently tired of "Rough Point", his Newport, R. I. summer home, F. W. Vanderbilt began to spend his time at his "Japanese Camp" at Upper St. Regis Lake in the Adirondacks.⁵⁹ The camp was apparently completed in 1903 and Mr. Vanderbilt had a launch, "Mystery", which he entered in the races of the St. Regis Yacht Club.⁶⁰ The summer of 1907 saw the peak use of the "Japanese Camp" and the Vanderbilts entertained a number of house parties there that summer.⁶¹ By 1909, Mr. Vanderbilt appears to have lost interest in this camp and it is known that he spent the summers of 1909, 1911, 1912 and 1913 in Europe.⁶²

In September of 1913, the newspapers reported: "Frederick W. Vanderbilt, of Hyde Park has sold his camp on Upper St. Regis Lake to Herbert L. Pratt of New York. The Vanderbilt camp is one of the most attractive ones situated in that section of the Adirondacks and its construction is of Japanese design and workmanship. In the construction of this camp, Mr. Vanderbilt employed for a period of two years, fifteen expert mechanics from Japan." ⁶³

3. Bar Harbor, Maine 1915 - 1927

Mr. Vanderbilt sold his Japanese camp in 1913, but as early as 1909, he showed a lack of interest in that summer home. In 1909, 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt spent the summer in Europe. World War I broke out in Europe in the summer of 1914 and caught the Vanderbilts in Europe. They returned from Italy on the "Udine", the last of August that year.⁶⁴

In August of 1915, they leased a cottage owned by Mr. George L. Thompson in West Street, Bar Harbor, Maine. ⁶⁵They liked it there apparently, for they spent the summers of 1916, ⁶⁶(no evidence available on period 1917 - 1919), and 1920 there. Mr. Vanderbilt bought a mansion there (about 1916) probably from Mr. Henry Lane Ene. Mr. Alfred E. Martin, Mr. Vanderbilt's butler reports that Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt used it regularly from shortly after the Fourth of July, staying to after Labor Day each year. He also says that Mr. Vanderbilt sold the ⁶⁷Bar Harbor camp after Mrs. Vanderbilt's death (she died August 20, 1926 in Paris). *See Supplements p. 67, 69*

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT'S YACHTS

"Yachting is almost as fixed a Vanderbilt tradition as railroading. ." (N. Y. Times Obituary, F. W. Vanderbilt, June 30, 1938, p.23) F. W. Vanderbilt's yacht colors: purple and white pennant.

From 1889 to 1938, Mr. Vanderbilt owned and operated or chartered a big luxury yacht. His use of these yachts fell into a regular pattern. February and March of each year were usually spent at Palm Beach, Florida; and Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt with guests, would cruise in southern waters. Summers were often spent in Europe. The Vanderbilts would cross the Atlantic on an ocean liner, having sent their yacht on ahead of them. Once on the other side, the Vanderbilts would pick up their yacht and cruise along the coast of Europe or in the Mediterranean. During World War I, they spent summers at Bar Harbor, Maine, and used their yacht to cruise along that coast.

1. The Conqueror, 1889 - 1903

The "Conqueror" was his first big yacht, built at Glasgow, England in 1889 at a reported cost of \$75,000. ⁶⁹It was sold in 1903.

Used off and on to see Poughkeepsie Regatta from 1895 till 1903. ⁷⁰

Known cruises: January to March, 1901 - cruising in southern waters off Florida and in Caribbean with Mr. Edward Wales. ⁷¹

March of 1903 - at Palm Beach, Florida ⁷²

November 1903 - Mr. Vanderbilt ordered a new yacht, ⁷³"The Warrior" to be built for him. *See Supplements p. 68*

2. The Warrior, 1904 - 1914

In November, 1903, Frederick W. Vanderbilt ordered a new steam yacht built from designs of G. L. Weston. It was a twin screw yacht 239 feet long (Andrews in The Vanderbilt Legend, page 325 says it was 255 feet long) at the water line, 32 feet 6 inches beam and her measurement was about 1,200 tons. ⁷⁴The yacht was built at Tryon, Scotland and was launched February 4, 1904. ⁷⁵It is said to have cost \$500,000. ⁷⁶At the end of March, 1904, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt sailed for Europe to pick up their new yacht. ⁷⁷

Cruises of the Warrior:

- Summer 1904 (June to September) - Cruising off Europe, visited Kiel, Germany 78
- Summer 1905 (June to September) - Entertaining numerous parties at Hyde Park on their yacht, among them, Sara D. Roosevelt 79
- September and October, 1906 - Cruising along the coast of Italy with the Duchess of Manchester as their guest 80
- April, May, June, 1907 - Cruising off Europe in the Mediterranean, visiting Tunis, Turkey and Greece 81
- June and July, 1908 - Cruising off Europe 82
- May 1909 - Cruising in the Mediterranean 83
- February and March, 1910 - At Palm Beach, Florida, cruising to Cuba and Bermuda, with the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, and Lady Lester-Kaye as their guests 84
- September 1910 - Cruising off Europe 85
- January, February, March, 1911 - At Florida, cruising to West Indies, with the Duke and Duchess of Manchester as their guests 86
- July to October, 1912 - Cruising off Europe through different waters 87
- May to October, 1913 - Off Europe 88

In going to Europe, the Vanderbilts would send the Warrior on ahead, while Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt would cross the Atlantic on an ocean liner, picking up their yacht on the other side. 89

Wreck of the Warrior:

On December 24, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt with guests, left New York City on the Warrior for a winter cruise to the South. 90
On January 28, 1914, the Warrior ran aground on a coral reef off Cape Aguatia, Colombia, South America. The Warrior was insured for \$250,000. 91
On board at the time, were Mr. and Mrs Vanderbilt, the Duke and Duchess

of Manchester, and Lord Arthur George Keith-Falconer. Lashed to the rails and doubtful of being rescued during the heavy seas, they watched eight lifeboats of the United Fruit Line Frutera smash against the side of the ship in an effort to get a boat over the side to rescue those on the Warrior. Another United Fruit Line boat, the Almirante, finally effected the rescue after the seas had calmed somewhat.⁹² The captain of the Warrior, at this time, was Chief Johnson, and the Chief Officer Edwards. Part of the crew were left on board the Warrior in hopes of saving it.⁹³ After considerable difficulty, the yacht was finally floated in March and reached New York Harbor on April 22, 1914.⁹⁴ Mr. Vanderbilt then sold the Warrior to Harry Payne Whitney.⁹⁵ *see supplement p 69*

3. Thelma. 1915

In May of 1915, Mr. Vanderbilt purchased the twin screw motor yacht, Thelma from Morton F. Plant. August and September of 1915, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt spent at Bar Harbor, Maine and cruised along the coast in their yacht. ⁹⁶

4. The Vedetta I (??) 1916 - 1919

Among the maps and plans found in Vanderbilt Mansion, are a set of plans (5 sheets) for a large yacht by Tams, Lemoine and Crane, 52 Pine Street, New York City, dated November 13, 1915 and stamped sent November 15, 1915. These may be for the Vedette I. Little is yet known of this yacht, but apparently Vanderbilt had it and loaned it to the Navy during World War I (April, 1917 - November, 1918) as a patrol boat (see bronze tablet in Mansion safe). - Will talk with Mr. Alfred E. Martin about this yacht. ⁹⁷

5. Yacht Virginia (Chartered) 1916

The newspapers reported in March, 1916, that Mr. Vanderbilt had chartered the steam yacht "Virginia" for the season. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt spent August of that year at Bar Harbor, Maine, and cruised along the coast with the Duchess of Manchester as their guest. ⁹⁸

6. Yacht Lorinda (Chartered) 1923

January, February, and March, 1923, Mr. Vanderbilt with his guest H. B. Anderson, spent at Palm Beach, Florida. Mr. Vanderbilt cruised to Miami and the Florida Keys on a fishing trip on the yacht Lorinda which he had chartered from Henry W. Savage. ⁹⁹

7. The Vedette II, 1924 - 1938

In October, 1923, Mr. Vanderbilt ordered a new yacht, the "Vedette" II, built from designs by Cox and Stevens (see plans, 2 sheets from Vanderbilt safe: 1. Arrangement of Decks, 158 6" Motor Yacht, by Cox & Stevens, Naval Architects, 25 Broadway, New York City, dated October 11,

1923; second sheet - Outboard Profile) This Diesel yacht was built at the Krupp Works at Kiel, Germany, at a reported cost of \$450,000. ¹⁰⁰ The fittings of this luxury yacht came from Parisian art rooms and raised the total cost of the vessel to more than \$1,000,000. ¹⁰¹ The new ship was finished in June 1924 and arrived at New York City, August 14, 1924. On January 23, 1925, the new yacht sank at its Brooklyn mooring. ¹⁰³ Mr. Vanderbilt apparently had the ship raised and used it until his death in June, 1938. See supplements p. 69, 70, 59

Use of the Vedetta II 1924 - 1926

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt would go to their mansion at Bar Harbor, Maine, from the Fourth of July to Labor Day of each summer, taking their yacht and cruising on it along the coast. In the winter (January to March) they would usually go to Palm Beach, Florida and cruise on their yacht in southern waters. ¹⁰⁴ After the death of Mrs. Vanderbilt (August 20, 1926), Mr. Vanderbilt sold the Bar Harbor camp, but apparently from 1927 to 1938 he continued going to Palm Beach and cruising in the winter time.

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT AND INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACING

1. 1893 William K. Vanderbilt I, Frederick W. Vanderbilt and J. P. Morgan financed the "Colonia", which the Herrshoff yards designed, to enter into the defense of the American cup. The investment proved unfortunate. Another Herreshoff yacht, the "Vigilant" won the American competition and was selected to defend the cup. ¹⁰⁵

2. 1934 Frederick W. Vanderbilt and 13 other millionaires joined together and jointly financed the construction of the "Rainbow", designed by Sterling Burgess, to defend the American Cup. This time the "Rainbow" was successful in the American competition and was selected as the Cup defender. In September of 1934, in the yacht races held off Newport, R. I., the "Rainbow" succeeded in defeating the English rival, "Endeavour", and retaining the American Cup. ¹⁰⁶

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT AND THE PEOPLE OF HYDE PARK

In reading through the local papers of Dutchess County, one gains the impression that Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt took a much more personal interest in their philanthropy to the people of Hyde Park and had much more personal contact with the villagers than was the case with most of their philanthropies to institutions. Nearly all personal contact in Hyde Park seems to have come through the interest and kindness of Mrs. Vanderbilt. Listed below are her activities in Hyde Park and those of Mr. Vanderbilt.

1. St. James Reading Room, 1899 to at least 1907

In July 1899, the reading room attached to St. James Chapel, which for a number of years previous to the death of Walter Langdon had been maintained by that gentleman, was reopened through the generosity of Mrs. Vanderbilt. Mrs. Vanderbilt subscribed to the foremost daily, weekly and monthly newspapers, periodicals and magazines for the reading room. All people were welcomed to the use of the room. She continued to do this until 1906 (Last reference noted was in October 1906). 167

2. Dress-making Class and Millinery Class, 1900 to 1911

In 1900, Mrs. Vanderbilt established a sewing class at the Hyde Park school which instructed the girls in the art of dressmaking. In 1901, Mrs. Vanderbilt started a second class which taught the girls how to make hats. Both classes were instructed by experts whose salaries were paid by Mrs. Vanderbilt. As the newspaper put it: "It is Mrs. Vanderbilt's intention to fit the girls in Hyde Park and vicinity to be good housewives". Mrs. Vanderbilt apparently also took a personal interest in the girls of these classes for in November of 1902, we find her giving a dance at Roger's Hall (Town Hall) for these girls. Possibly she attended some of these parties in person. (Last reference to sewing classes found June, 1911, when she entertained the members of her sewing class). 168

3. Young Men's Club of Hyde Park, 1901 to 1909

In February of 1901, Mrs. Vanderbilt provided a club room for the young men of Hyde Park. A billiard and a pool table, checkers, cards, and plenty of good literature were supplied. All young men over 15 years of age were eligible for membership and all parents were asked to encourage their sons to join. The dues were five cents a week, the money to go to the janitor. The newspapers soon reported that almost every young man in Hyde Park had become a member. By the end of that month, the club had 85 members. Other gifts to the club included a gramophone and records that year. 169

In 1902, Mrs. Vanderbilt sponsored a Thanksgiving Day dance at Rogers' Hall for the Young Men's Club and the Young Ladies' Sewing Classes. 170

In December 1903, Mrs. Vanderbilt had the Young Men's Club room renovated. The newspaper announced: "When the club was first started, dues of 5 cents per week were extracted from the members. Mrs. Vanderbilt did this so as to get an idea whether or not our young men would appreciate and interest themselves in the club. They did, much to the satisfaction of this good kind lady and in consequence, the Club is now a free one." In 1904, this club was under the charge of Mr. John Germond. (Last reference to Club noted in January 1909, Mrs. Vanderbilt gave a private complimentary dance to the Young Men's Club at the Town Hall for New Years).

4. Vanderbilt Base Ball Team, 1913 to 1915

This team, composed of employees of the Vanderbilt estate at Hyde Park, was started a year or two before 1913. In October of 1913 (October 5, 1913), this team won the Amateur Championship of Dutchess and Putnam Counties. (Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier of that date has photograph of the team, with names) The team continued to function until 1917, when the United States entered World War I.

A newspaper article on the team in July of 1915 stated: "Both Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt take great interest in the team and have made arrangements for a game every Saturday afternoon, which is open to the residents of the village."//In August of that year, a new ball diamond was laid out on the Vanderbilt estate.//5

5. Red Cross Movement, 1911 to 1919

Mrs. Vanderbilt was apparently a strong leader and supporter of the Red Cross movement in Hyde Park. The first mention of the Red Cross in Hyde Park occurred in the April 9, 1911 edition of the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier. The paper stated that Mrs. Vanderbilt had placed in the Hyde Park public school, a first aid American Red Cross Chest, containing bandages, implements and articles for the first aid to the injured. A course of instruction, with demonstrations, for the school children was given by Dr. J. M. Cronk, of Hyde Park.

In January of 1912, through the generosity of Mrs. Vanderbilt, the people of Hyde Park heard a lecture at the Town Hall by two Red Cross experts on first aid to the injured.//6

In December of 1915, Mrs. Vanderbilt gave \$500 to Dutchess County Chapter of the Red Cross to aid the War Victims in Europe.//7

In January 1919, the newspaper noted that the Hyde Park Association of the Red Cross had recently received a very substantial check from Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt.//8

6. District Health Nurse Movement, 1917 to 1919

Mrs. Vanderbilt is not mentioned in the newspapers in connection with this organization, but the books of the Hyde Park Treasurer of that group apparently revealed the fact that Mrs. Vanderbilt gave strong financial support. A brief history of organization follows (see Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier):

a. February 25, 1917 District Health Nurse movement started in Hyde Park
p. 22

b. March 18, 1917 Miss Schrenk appointed first nurse for Hyde Park
p. 22

c. May 26, 1918, ^{P. 16} First report of May 4, 1917 to May 14, 1918

d. June 8, 1919, ^{P. 17} Second report

e. November 9, 1919, ^{P. 17} Hyde Park refuses to pay nurse's salary from taxes. Individuals will do so.

7. Hyde Park Home Defense Company. June 4, 1917 to February 16, 1919

Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier, May 12, 1918^{P. 20} carried a photograph of Hyde Park Home Defense Reserve, with names of men.

This company was formed on June 4, 1917, through the efforts of Mr. Frederick W. Vanderbilt. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt took a great interest in promoting the welfare of these soldiers and together with Mr. James Roosevelt Roosevelt, uniformed the men even to shoes. Mr. J. R. Roosevelt furnished the company with 45 caliber Springfield rifles, ammunition, and cartridge belts. Mr. Thomas Newbold gave the company an ambulance. The company had 65 officers and men. Its main function appears to have been marching in patriotic parades during World War I. The Company was mustered out of the New York State Home Guard in February 1919. //9

8. Entertainment and Lectures for the People of Hyde Park. 1896-1922 120

From 1896 to 1924, Mrs. Vanderbilt generally gave two or three parties for the people and children of Hyde Park each year. These entertainments were held at the Town Hall and followed these general lines:

a. New Years' Party for Adults

This was given at the Town Hall in the form of a complimentary dance for the people of Hyde Park with music usually brought from Poughkeepsie for dancing till 12 o'clock, at which time a collation was served in the diningroom of the Hall. Usually 200 to 300 attended. Mrs. Vanderbilt sometimes made an appearance.

b. June or July

Mrs. Vanderbilt would usually charter a steamer and take the children of Hyde Park on a cruise to Kingston Point; or give the children a strawberry and ice cream festival. Sometimes she would join with other wealthy residents and take all the residents of Hyde Park and Staatsburg (on one occasion 700 people) on a cruise to Newburgh or Bear Mountain.

c. A Thanksgiving or Christmas Party for Adults

Mrs. Vanderbilt would usually hold either a Thanksgiving or Christmas party for adults at the Town Hall. One typical Thanksgiving eve program "consisted of singing by the Cocellin Quartette of New York City, imitations by Mr. Pechan, and sleight of hand by Prof. Cruger. The hall was crowded . . ." /21

d. A Christmas or New Year's Party for Children

Mrs. Vanderbilt almost always gave either a Christmas or New Year's party for the children of Hyde Park at the Town Hall. This usually included a dinner, drawing presents from a grab bag, and some form of entertainment possibly a magician. She often attended this party in person.

In addition to these Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt usually arranged at least one educational lecture a year for the people of Hyde Park. Mrs. Vanderbilt often brought well-known lecturers to Hyde Park to speak at the Town Hall to the women of the village. Mr. Vanderbilt arranged the lectures for the men (illustrated lectures on Indians, etc.). In 1920, Mr. Vanderbilt and Mr. Archibald Rogers, acting through the Men's Club of St. James Church, put up the money to buy and put into good condition a second-hand motion picture projector for the villagers. Weekly movies were then given in the Town Hall for all. /22

Another example of the Vanderbilt's personal interest in Hyde Park can be cited in 1906, when Mrs. Vanderbilt gave prizes for the Manual Training course given in the Hyde Park School.²³ That same year, Mr. Vanderbilt gave gold badges for prizes to the young men winning athletic contests at the new town gym. /24

The Vanderbilts and other wealthy residents also gave the churches of Hyde Park, flowers and plants from their greenhouses for special services, such as Easter or Christmas. (Psc, April 30, 1916, p 4)

OTHER VANDERBILT GIFTS TO HYDE PARK

See supplements p 67, 68, 70.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt also used their influence in less direct ways to help improve Hyde Park:

1. In 1896, it was reported that Mr. F. W. Vanderbilt had used his influence to have extensive improvements made on the property of the N. Y. C. & H. Railroad Company at Hyde Park. The land known as the flats, was graded and a fountain placed in the center of it. Flower beds, new roads, etc. were made. /25

2. New Bridge on Post Road. 1898

In May of 1898, Mr. Vanderbilt offered to contribute 3/4 of \$18,000 toward the replacement of the old stone pier and wooden frame bridge on the Albany Post Road, just north of the village of Hyde Park. At a special Town Meeting on June 8, 1898, 278 residents voted to accept Mr.

Vanderbilt's offer and to raise a sum of \$2,700 to defray one-fourth of the estimated cost of the new bridge. There were fifteen votes against the proposition.

Work on the new bridge began on June 27, 1898 with Owen Morris, Civil Engineer, of Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie, as designer and superintendent of construction. The contractor is reported to have been a Mr. Cuso. Wages for laborers employed on the new bridge were \$1.25 per day and it was reported that no men except Italians would work at those rates. When the bridge was completed at the end of December 1898, it was said to be one of the "finest" bridges in this part of the state. It continued to cross Crum Elbow Creek without alteration until 1922. In August of that year the southern approach to the bridge on the Post Road was widened. It was opened up to 32 feet. In 1928, the county purchased additional land from Mr. Vanderbilt to add a concrete arch for the third lane. The present center lane and west lane are over the old bridge.

3
3. In November, 1899, Mrs. Vanderbilt gave Regina Coeli Church of Hyde Park, two statuettes representing the Adoring Angels. 129

4. In December, 1903 the newspaper reported "Train No. 37 will stop at Hyde Park in the future to leave off passengers, the only condition being that the agent at Poughkeepsie be notified before the train leaves New York. This privilege was gotten for our townspeople through efforts of Mr. F. W. Vanderbilt, who gave the matter his personal attention." 130

5. Another story too good to be lost; In December 1903, the newspaper also reported: "Several days ago, Frederick W. Vanderbilt, while walking near his country home in Hyde Park, noticed that the hands of several laborers he met on the way, were unprotected by gloves. Mr. Vanderbilt very generously directed Mr. Briggs, a village storekeeper to send a case of gloves down to the men and see that all were properly fitted and to send the bill to him." Note: Wages were apparently \$1.50 per day for a ten hour or more day at this time. 132

6. Straightening the Post Road, 1909:

In March of 1909, through an arrangement with the Town Board of Hyde Park, Mr. Vanderbilt agreed to straighten the Old Post Road where it passed his property by taking out the curve north of the handsome stone bridge that he had erected in 1898. Mr. Vanderbilt bore all the expense of the enterprise himself. He gave the land needed for the new stretch of highway and took in exchange the abandoned strip of highway. 133

7. A final example of Mr. Vanderbilt's interest in Hyde Park people may be cited from Mr. Vanderbilt's will (He died at Hyde Park, June 29, 1938). To Mr. Herbert C Shears, Superintendent of his Hyde Park estate from 1902 to 1938, Mr. Vanderbilt left the Wales House and \$250,000. To 33 other Hyde Park employees who had been with him at least 10 years at time of his death, Mr. Vanderbilt left a total of \$101,000.

VANDERBILT GIFTS AND RELATIONS WITH POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

1. In January 1896, Frederick W. Vanderbilt joined the Hudson River Ice Yacht Club of Poughkeepsie, but there is no evidence to indicate that Mr. Vanderbilt ever ice yachted. This club existed from 1869 to 1921 when it was disbanded. / 34

2. In 1896 and 1897, Mr. Vanderbilt was listed as a subscriber to the fund for the college boat races or regatta held at Poughkeepsie, giving \$100 each time. ³⁵In 1895, his yacht "Conqueror" was reported in line to watch the races. ³⁶In 1923, Mr. Vanderbilt was again listed as giving \$100 for the race fund. ³⁷It would thus seem that Mr. Vanderbilt probably subscribed each year to this fund. *see supplements p 71*

3. In 1911, when the Red Cross movement was getting under way, Mayor Sague, of Poughkeepsie, made arrangements with Mrs. Vanderbilt to have the Red Cross car that was passing through, stay in that city for several days so a first aid course could be given to the railroad men. / 38

4. In October of 1919, it was reported that Mr. Vanderbilt had presented the Park Department of Poughkeepsie with five very fine palms from his estate. These were placed in the College Hill Conservatory. / 39

5. In April, 1922, Mrs. Vanderbilt gave \$5,000 towards erecting a new Children's Home in Poughkeepsie. / 40

6. In December, 1921 Mrs. Vanderbilt gave \$75 to be applied to the Police Pension Fund of Poughkeepsie. ⁴¹The newspaper stated that Mrs. Vanderbilt made a donation to this fund every year. In May, 1926, the New York Times listed Mrs. Vanderbilt as giving \$100 to this fund. / 42

WHAT THE FREDERICK W. VANDERBILTS DID AT HYDE PARK

SOCIAL LIFE

The following is a list of the activities that Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt and other wealthy families of Hyde Park and Dutchess County did at their country estates for amusement:

1. Winter

A. Ice Boating

A popular sport with the wealthy families was ice yachting. This was indulged in by Archibald Rogers and sons, John A. Roosevelt and daughters, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Samuel B. Sexton, Thomas Newbold and others. Frederick W. Vanderbilt joined the Hudson River Ice Yacht Club of Poughkeepsie in 1896. While there is no definite proof that Mr. / 43

Vanderbilt ever indulged in this sport, he could have done so and his friends, especially Mr. E. Wales of Hyde Park, was an ardent follower of the sport.

B. Sleighbing

In the wintertime, nearly all of the wealthy residents of Hyde Park closed their home there and moved to New York City for the winter, but on weekends they would come up and join in the winter sports. If the snow was right, they would take out their fine- stepping horses and sleighs and go dashing down the highways.¹⁴ No definite account of Mr. Vanderbilt's driving his sleighs has been found, but he could have done so as a number of old sleighs were found in the coach-house on his death, June 29, 1938, all of which were in first rate condition. *See supplements p 6.*

2. Spring

A. Riding to the Hounds 145

In the spring and also the fall, the Dutchess Hunt Club was active. This club was composed of wealthy families of Dutchess County and numbered among its membership such men as James Roosevelt, James Roosevelt Roosevelt, John A. Roosevelt, S. B. Sexton, Archibald Rogers, Ogden Mills, Thomas Newbold, John Jacob Astor, the Dinsmores and Huntingtons. They would take out their finest horses and hounds and go riding over the countryside. No proof has been found that Mr. Vanderbilt ever indulged in this sport but he or his friends certainly could have done so.

B. Poughkeepsie Regatta

The Poughkeepsie Regatta was held about the end of June or the first of July each year. Mr. Vanderbilt, on his yacht "Conqueror" is listed as being present at the first regatta ever held in 1895. As Mr. Vanderbilt subscribed to the Regatta fund each year, it seems likely that he usually attended this event. *See supplements p 71*

3. Summer

The Vanderbilts and other wealthy families of Dutchess County usually returned to their summer camps or resorts far from Hyde Park for the hot season.

4. Fall

A. Riding to Hounds

With the cool weather, the wealthy families usually returned to their Dutchess County homes and the Dutchess Hunt Club again became active (see remarks under 2. Spring, A.).

B. Annual Flower Show

An annual Flower Show was held at the State Armory in Poughkeepsie under the auspices of the Dutchess Horticultural Society in early November. Nearly all the wealthy families of Dutchess County with extensive greenhouses, entered this event. Frederick W. Vanderbilt followed this custom, entering for the first time in 1897⁴⁶ and continuing almost every year through 1913, when the flower show was apparently discontinued. Mr. Vanderbilt won many prizes. Others entering the show included John Jacob Astor, Ogden Mills, L. P. Morgan, the Dinsmores, Thomas Newbold and Archibald Rogers.

C. The Dutchess County Fair *see supplements, p. 71*

This event was held every fall, first at Poughkeepsie and later (about 1919) at Rhinebeck. Like the Flower Show most of the wealthy residents of Dutchess County would exhibit at this event. This included the Astors, Dinsmores, Huntingtins, Morgans, Newbolds, Rogers, and (only once before 1924) Franklin D. Roosevelt. Frederick W. Vanderbilt entered the County Fair for the first time in September 1919.⁴⁷ (The fair that year was in charge of a Mr. Webb who had married a niece of Mr. Vanderbilt, which may account for Mr. Vanderbilt's entry). Frederick W. Vanderbilt also exhibited in the fairs of 1922 and 1923.⁴⁹ He won many prizes for his horses, Jersey cattle, and vegetables, the latter being entered under the name of Herbert C. Shears, Vanderbilt's superintendent.

5. Entertaining at Hyde Park

The Dutchess County homes were used by their wealthy owners chiefly as spring and fall residences. During these seasons they all frequently entertained house parties. There follows a list of known guests entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt at their Hyde Park Mansion, from 1895 to 1916. (They entertained more frequently than this list indicates, but their guests were not named.)

Hyde Park Guests *see supplements, p. 70*

1895 William K. Vanderbilt and party, Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt, and the Duke of Marlborough ¹⁵⁰ 151

1899 The first house party was given on Friday, May 12, 1899, in the just-completed Vanderbilt Mansion. (Guests not listed.) ¹⁵² 152

1899 Miss Margaret ("Daisy") Post (the future Mrs. Van Alen). ¹⁵³ 153

1900 William K. Vanderbilt; Mrs. Potter Palmer, wife of a millionaire, society leader of Chicago; ¹⁵⁴ 155

At a Luncheon: Mrs. Sara D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Bambrill, Mr. Hoyt, and Miss Post and Mr. Van Alen, ¹⁵⁶ William Morse, son of the inventor of the telegraph ¹⁵⁷ 157

- 1901 William K. Vanderbilt;¹⁵⁸ Mrs. Margaret Bottome, an associate editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, President of the International Order of the King's Daughter, writer, author, and lecturer. 159
- 1902 Mrs. Ellen Yznaga,¹⁶⁰ grandmother to the Duke of Manchester
- 1904 Mrs. Margaret Bottome of New York;¹⁶¹ Col. & Mrs. Colburne of England 162
- 1905 Mrs. Sara D. Roosevelt entertained twice; 163
The Duchess of Marlborough and her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt;¹⁶⁴ Admiral Prince Louis of Balenburgh;¹⁶⁵ Mrs Ellen Yznaga 166
- Battenberg*
- 1906 Miss Lota Robinson 167
- 1907 The Duchess of Manchester and Lady Bitz Ponsonby;¹⁶⁸ Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, daughter of Cornelius Vanderbilt II, and Count Laszle Szechenyi of Hungary 169
- At a dinner: Mrs. Sara D. Roosevelt, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies, Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt and Gladys Vanderbilt, Mr and Mrs. William Thompson, and James Roosevelt Roosevelt 170
- 1908 Miss Adlie Colgate, daughter of the Countess of Stafford, formerly of New Hamburg. 171
- At dinner: Miss Mary Newbold; Mrs. Sara D. Roosevelt; Prince Colonna and his son, a Marquis Somi; Mrs Lawrence Townsend, and her daughter; Mrs. Howard and her brother. (Mrs. Townsend was the wife of the U. S. Minister to Belgium, 1908) 173
- At a Luncheon: Mrs. Sara D. Roosevelt, Sir Rennell and Lady Rodd. Sir Rennell had lately been British Ambassador to Rome. 174
- 1910 The Duke and Duchess of Manchester, also Lady Lester-Kaye, sister of the late Consuelo, Duchess of Manchester 175
- 1911 Dinner: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Sara D. Roosevelt, and "Doc". 176
- 1914 House guests: Mr. and Mrs Rathbone Bacon, of London, England; and Mr. E. R. Bacon of New York City 177
- 1916 At wedding of Ruth Wales, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wales of Hyde Park, to son of Col Henry DuPont - The Henry DuPont of Delaware, Mrs. U. S. Grant, Mrs and Senator Elihu Root, The Franklin D. Roosevelts, Mrs. James Roosevelt, The Rogers, The Newbolds and Astors. 178

Other Vanderbilt Guests at Other Places *See Supplements, p. 76*

- 1907 Upper St. Regis Lake, Adirondacks "Japanese Camp" 179
Mrs Thomas H. Howard of Hyde Park; Mr. & Mrs William Douglas Sloane (she was a sister of F. W. Vanderbilt, nee Emily Thorn Vanderbilt); Miss Katherine Cameron, of Rosebank, S. I., daughter of Sir Roderick Cameron; Mr. & Mrs Edmund L. Baylies; W. B. Osgood Field (He married a daughter of Emily Thorn Vanderbilt); Mrs. Fox Hall Keene; Mme. Yznaga, mother of the Duchess of Manchester
- 1910 Palm Beach, Florida, on Yacht "Warrior"
The Duke and Duchess of Manchester and Lady Lester-Kaye 82
- 1911 Palm Beach, Florida, on Yacht "Warrior"
The Duke and Duchess of Manchester 183
- 1912 London and Paris
Lady Lester-Kaye 184
- 1914 On "Warrior" cruise to South America
The Duke and Duchess of Manchester and Lord Arthur Keith-Falconer (Yacht grounded) 185

Ritz-Carlton Hotel, New York City
Prince Muenster Von Nerneburg of the German Embassy, Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Osgood Field 186 187
- 1916 At Bar Harbor Camp, Maine
The Duchess of Manchester 188
- 1919 At 1025 Fifth Avenue, New York City Home 189
Mrs. William D. Sloane (sister of F. W. Vanderbilt); Mrs. Reginald de Koven (wife of N. Y. music critic and composer); 190
Mrs. Frank G. Griswold, Mr. Francis K. Plendleton; Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt; Mrs William Post; Mrs. James L. Putnam; Mr. Whitney Warren (Architect who did much work for Mr. Vanderbilt); Mr. & Mrs. Ernesto G. Fabbri (Mrs. Fabbri a niece of Mr. Vanderbilt); 191
Rewilns L. Collenot; Prince Monteneals; Lieutenant Aorngo; David O. Constantin and Prince Esorisky, This was a luncheon and musical.
"Lorinda"
- 1923 Palm Beach, Florida, on yacht "Warrior", 193
H. B. Anderson

A DESCRIPTION OF MR. AND MRS. FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT

in 1896 at Hyde Park

(From the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier, July 19, 1896, p.2)

" Frederick W. Vanderbilt is the third son of the late William Henry Vanderbilt. The Directory gives his occupation as Treasurer of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad. He is a man of most genial and kindly manner, with a sweet and mellow voice and a face that lights up with a sunny smile. Of the blonde type and having a ruddy complexion, he quite fills the conception of an English country squire, a character which he seems ambitious to cultivate since the purchase of this new toy (the Hyde Park estate).

Mrs. Vanderbilt, a cousin of her husband, (this is incorrect - she was married to a cousin of her husband) is a very handsome woman, and so queenly in her carriage as to make her seem taller than her inches. She is lovely and gracious in spirit, and the promoter of many charities. She cares but little for society, delights to entertain at her country place at Newport ("Rough Point") such people as Mrs. Margaret Bottoms, the founder of the King's Daughters and is never happier than when she is with Mr. Vanderbilt on a long cruise in their yacht "The Conqueror".

We are told that the union of Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt was purely a love match, and provoked some opposition from the families; but certain it is that their wedded life presents the picture of perfect happiness and contentment, - whether alone on their little floating palace, or amid the velvet lawns and under the tossing green of their beautiful new home at Hyde Park." (They were living in the Pavilion or Inn at this time).

FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT HYDE PARK ESTATE, 1895 - 1938

I. Purchases the Property, 1895

1. Purchase of the Langdon Estate

On September 17, 1894, Walter Langdon died.¹⁹⁴ On Thursday evening of October 25, 1894, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt arrived at Staatsburg on their yacht the "Conqueror" and dined at Ogden Mills.¹⁹⁵ The purpose of their visit was probably to look over the Langdon estate at Hyde Park, which was then on the market. In any case, the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier, May 12, 1895, p.5, announced to its readers that "Another Millionaire" had bought an estate in Dutchess County. Frederick W. Vanderbilt, of New York, had purchased the Walter Langdon estate in Hyde Park and was to take possession on May 21, 1895.¹⁹⁶ In August of 1895,¹⁹⁷ Mr. Vanderbilt purchased some more small pieces of real estate (Three acres of land from Thomas Park and Miss Banker on which to build the Wales House). In October of 1897,¹⁹⁸ he also added to his Hyde Park estate the Sherwood property and the large lot adjoining it. The purchase price for the Langdon estate was \$125,000;¹⁹⁹ the price of the small additions in 1895 and 1897 is unknown.

2. Size of Estate 1898

459
Owen Morris, Civil Engineer of Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie, made two detailed maps for Mr. Vanderbilt of the Hyde Park estate in 1898. The map of the eastern Portion of the Estate (all land east of the Albany Post Road, including the farm section and the Howard Mansion) included 459 acres. The map of the Western Portion of the Estate (all land west of the Albany Post Road, including the mansion site and the Wales Place) included 153 acres. Total acreage in 1898 (with Howard and Wales Place included) was thus 612 acres for which Mr. Vanderbilt had paid \$125,000 plus.

3. Other Minor Additions to Property, 1902, 1917, Minor Changes 1909

612
+64.22
676.22
Other minor additions to the Hyde Park estate occurred in May, 1902, when Mr. Vanderbilt purchased the hotel known as "Whselmen's Rest" that adjoined his property and had the hotel removed. In April, 1917 Mr. Vanderbilt also purchased the coal pockets and sheds of Mr. George E. B. Van Wagner. Mr. Vanderbilt had these buildings razed in July 1919. One minor change along the Albany Post Road occurred in 1909, when Mr. Vanderbilt gave land to straighten the curve in the road just north of the Highway bridge over Crum Elbow Creek. He took in exchange, however, the abandoned strip of highway. Mr. Vanderbilt also traded some land with the railroad in 1912.

4. The Major Addition to the Hyde Park Estate, 1905

The major addition to Mr. Vanderbilt's Hyde Park estate took place on October 11, 1905, when he purchased for \$31,000 the estate of the late Samuel B. Sexton which adjoined his on the north. The Sexton estate (Torham) lay on the west side of the Post Road and brought Mr. Vanderbilt's estate up to our present north boundary line. Benjamin Brevoort's map of the Sexton estate indicates that this property contained 64.22 acres. The mansion, "Torham" had burned September 13, 1899 and had never been rebuilt. There were, however, several servants cottages, farm buildings, etc. on the Sexton property in 1905.

5. Summary

324,450
10
324,450
Frederick W. Vanderbilt's Hyde Park estate at its greatest extent (1917) thus included more than 676 acres (including Howard and Wales Places) for which he had paid more than \$156,000. At the time of Mr. Vanderbilt's death, June 29, 1938, the estate comprised 631 acres and was assessed for \$324,450.207

II. Building Vanderbilt Mansion, September, 1896 - April, 1899

1. Original Plans

Frederick W. Vanderbilt appears to have been strongly influenced in his intention to settle at Hyde Park and to build there by his friendship with Mr. Ogden Mills of Staatsburg. This opinion is based on the

following data, which may or may not be merely coincidences:

a. Mr. Vanderbilt's first recorded visit to this vicinity was a visit to Mr. Mills in October, 1895, when the Langdon estate was on the market. ²⁰⁸

b. 1894-1895, Mr. Mills was having his great home at Staatsburg rebuilt and remodeled, the central idea being to save the center section of his house, the old part which dated back into the early history of our country, and add two completely new wings in such a fashion as to blend with the old section. ²⁰⁹

c. Mr. Mills' architects were McKim, Mead and White. ²¹⁰

d. Mr. Vanderbilt is known to have looked over the work on Mr. Mills' mansion several times before he started building for himself. ²¹¹

2. Langdon Mansion, 1895

The Langdon mansion had been built in 1854. ²¹² The mansion contained about 40 rooms divided into a central section and a north and south wing. ²¹³ In 1895, this old house was painted a light pink. ²¹⁴ The architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White, of New York City were immediately engaged to work for Mr. Vanderbilt. The newspaper reported only a few weeks after Mr. Vanderbilt took possession of his estate, that S. H. Brower and C. H. Elliot had been spending a week there taking measurements of the buildings for the architects, McKim, Mead & White. This was June 23, 1895. ²¹⁵

McKim Mead and White's original plans followed the same plan used for rebuilding Ogden Mills' mansion at Staatsburg, N. Y. namely: the central portion of the old Langdon house was to be preserved under a new facade, rooms inside this portion were to keep their original size and shape but to be redecorated, and the old north and south wings to be completely removed and to be replaced with brand-new north and south wings. The new and old sections were all to blend harmoniously together. ²¹⁶ Such evidence as exists indicates that Charles Follen McKim was the architect who was primarily responsible for the exterior design of the mansion. ²¹⁷ In any case, the drawings and plans for this proposed work were completed on September 23 and September 26, 1895 (see House for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. at Hyde Park, New York, by McKim, Mead and White, Architects, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York City, dated as just mentioned, 15 sheets signed by Swartwout and Elliott).

By the end of December 1895, little or no work had actually been accomplished on the Langdon mansion. McKim, Mead and White and their contractors, the Norcross Brothers, ²¹⁸ had been fully occupied that year with work on the Pavilion (Inn) ²¹⁹ and in starting work on the Howard Mansion and Wales House (see Development of Estate for these details). ²²⁰

²²¹ Early in January 1896, work was apparently started on the Langdon house, but on January 26, 1896, the newspaper reported that "work on the Vanderbilt mansion has been suspended for a time."

3. A Major Change in Plans for Vanderbilt Mansion. 1896

The work just started uncovered such radical defects that made necessary a considerable revision in plans. Early in February, 1896, William R. Mead informed his partner, C. F. McKim, who was journeying down the Nile, that "Fred Vanderbilt's job has met with serious delay, but he has acted very nicely about it . . . When we came to tear the old house apart, it was found to be in as bad a condition as the annex - no strength to the mortar, walls out of plumb, etc.; in fact, so bad that it seemed foolish to attempt to build anything on it. Vanderbilt hesitated on the ground that if he had not thought there was something to save in the old building, he would not have built on these lines. As matters now stand, we are rearranging the center on virtually the same lines, but with certain changes in plan, and keeping the exterior just as you left it. There has been a good deal of a fight to do this, because when it was found the old house had to come down, Mrs. Vanderbilt kicked over the traces, and was disposed to build an English house, as she called it.

"We have, however, used your name pretty freely, as being much interested in this design and likely to be much disappointed if anything happened to it, etc. etc., and when you come home you will find that you are still master of the job and to hell with White and Mead. . . "223

Later the same day, Mead wrote McKim, "MR. Fred Vanderbilt has been in and taken away his revised plan with which he seems to be satisfied. I have also given him your address and he has promised to write to you . . "224

In the period August 10 to August 17, 1896, the final set of plans for Vanderbilt Mansion were completed (see House for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. Hyde Park on the Hudson, New York; By McKim, Mead & White, Architects, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York City, N. Y. dated as above, 15 sheets).

On September 7, 1896, the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier announced that "Work on the Vanderbilt Mansion has been commenced" and previous to this it had noted the arrival of many barge loads of bricks at Hyde Park for use in the new mansion.²²⁶ On September 13, 1896 it reported that 20 Italian laborers (imported from outside) were employed in tearing down the old Langdon house.²²⁷ By October 18 of that year, a number of masons from New York City were at work laying the foundation for the mansion.²²⁸ On November 8, the first lot of cut stone for the mansion arrived in Hyde Park.²²⁹ During the week of December 6, Norcross Brothers, contractors for McKim Mead and White on the mansion, laid off a number of men who were employed in building the mansion.²³⁰ By December 20, 1896, a large derrick had been put in place at the Vanderbilt mansion and was the first of several which were used through at least June 27, 1897.²³² Beginning the week of December 27, 1896,²³³ through the middle of January 1897, work on the Vanderbilt mansion was suspended on account of the heavy snows.²³⁴

4. 1897

The next mention of work on the Vanderbilt mansion came in the newspapers on April 9, 1897, when it was reported that "the large heating pipes for Mr. Vanderbilt's house passed through this village today. They were so large, long and heavy that the team seemed to have all it could draw."²³ There may also have been minor revision of the mansion plans in this period also, for we find one of McKim, Mead and White's sheets for the mansion, sheet #10, Second Floor Plan, dated February 18, 1897.

By March 21, 1897, the newspaper reported that "work has been commenced on the water works on the Vanderbilt place. A large force of boys are at work digging the ditches for the pipes, as men would not work for the low wages paid by the contractors."²³ On March 27, a large number of men were at work erecting the iron stand pipe on the Vanderbilt estate.²³⁷ By May 2, a contract had been let to Mr. P. C. Doherty, a plumber of Poughkeepsie, to lay 10,000 feet of water pipe through the grounds.²³⁸

Brick layers were still at work on the mansion in May of 1897.²³⁹ On June 4, 1897, the paper reported that "the work on Mr. Vanderbilt's mansion is progressing rapidly now. He is to light it with electricity, and is having a plant put in".²⁴⁰

Work also proceeded on the interior of the mansion during the summer of 1897. H. Siddons Mowbray, the Mural Painter, later wrote: "McKim and I were returning from Hyde Park one afternoon in October, 1897. I had spent most of the summer there, working on the ceiling of the living room in the new house of Frederick Vanderbilt, designed by McKim. The work was finished and I was much relieved and also contented by the way it had been received . . ."²⁴¹

The derricks were still in use at the end of June, 1897, as the newspaper noted that a workman was injured by one.²⁴² On August 15, the press reported that "the sculptors who have been at work on the Vanderbilt mansion went on strike on Friday."²⁴³ By September 12, it was stated that "with the exception of the porches, the stone work on the Vanderbilt mansion has been completed."²⁴⁴ At the end of September, 1897, the press announced that the plasterers employed on the mansion had gone on a strike.²⁴⁵

On November 7, 1897, the paper reported "a number of the masons employed at the Vanderbilt mansion were laid off on Wednesday as the brickwork on the building is completed."²⁴⁶ This is the last entry in the newspapers for 1897.

5. 1898

Plasterers were still at work in the Mansion in April of 1898.²⁴⁷ On July 31 of that year, the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier reported: "The decorations of the Vanderbilt Mansion at Hyde Park are so gorgeous that the general public is excluded from the structure while the workmen are putting them in. Most of the ceilings, wall tapestries, marble mantels, columns and pilasters, and the beautiful mosaics and workwood were taken

The February 22, 1903 issue of the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier stated "a number of decorators from New York City are at work remodeling the interior of several rooms of the Vanderbilt mansion." One of these rooms was the Gold Room (Reception Room) and the work was done by George A. G. Glaenzer and Company of New York City (see Plan for Reception Room (Gold Room), Order No. 189; by George A. Glaenzer & Co., 88 E. 20th St. N. Y. City. Three sheets dated August 1 and August 10, but no year. As plans must be drawn in advance and approved it seems likely 1902, so work could be done in spring of 1903). No plans have thus far been found to indicate what other room was worked on in 1903.

On August 26, 1906, the newspaper reported "a large force of men are employed on the interior of the Vanderbilt mansion to be in readiness for the return of the family about the middle of September." This apparently refers to the alterations to the Living Room, Main Hall and Second story hall in installing the light well. This work was done under the direction of Whitney Warren, Architect, of New York City (see 12 plans - Alterations to the Residence of F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. Hyde Park, N. Y., By Warren & Wetmore, Architects, No. 3 East 33rd Street, New York. Drawing No. 261.) These plans show alterations to the living room; alterations to main hall, second story hall and light well. (Plans dated, approved, March 24, 1906) These are the last of the alterations that have been uncovered for Vanderbilt mansion.

III. Operation of Vanderbilt Mansion

I. Mansion Staff & Duties

- A. Staff (This is based on study of master plan; Mrs. Farley's and Mr. Martin's remarks. It may be amended after further talks.)

Three Butlers: First Butler - Mr. Stevenson 258
Second Butler - Edward Nelson 258
Third Butler - Alfred Martin 258

Housekeeper Mrs. Marian F. Smith

Two Cooks First Cook - woman
Second Cook - woman

Kitchen Girl

Four Chambermaids (Third Chambermaid - Mrs. Farley)

Parlor Maid

Three Laundry-women

Day Man (John Farley)

Night Man (Irving Bayles)

Total - 17 people to operate the Mansion

B. Duties of Staff

1. Duties of First Butler: First butler served all meals and teas. Breakfast was served in bedrooms or if in dining room, by a self service method. He had to serve at every meal as no women were allowed to serve meals. 258

2. Duties of Second and Third Butlers: Second and third butlers assisted the first butler, working one whole day and then a half day. The second and third butler alternated on this schedule so that all three men were available to lunch and two from then on. 258

First thing in the morning after breakfast the third man would go to dining room, open blinds and open one window at each end of the room; then clean the room, polish the floors and the tables. This work was done in an hour. Next the third man would go to the butler's pantry and take out the silver cups, mugs, and bowls used to decorate the sideboards and the large table in the dining room, polish them and place them in order. The third man would then go

through the main rooms on the first floor and polish the various pieces of silver on the writing tables and the ashtrays on the various tables. This work was completed about nine in the morning. The third man would then return to the butler's pantry and assist the second man to polish the service silver and platters. 258

At 11:00 in the morning, one of the men (whose turn it was) would go to his room and change into uniform. This uniform consisted of black pants, black cutaway coat with black buttons, white vest, white tie and white shirt. Meanwhile, the other man prepared the luncheon table, setting the table with silver, china and glassware. At 11:45, the man who had changed into uniform, would return to the butler's pantry and put the finishing touches on the luncheon table. The other man was then relieved until after luncheon and until dinner. Luncheon for the Vanderbilts was served from 1:15 to 2:00 P.M., and one man would assist the first butler in serving it. Then, one of the men would clear away the table. During the afternoon, the man on duty would answer calls on service bell, answer the telephone and occasionally take a walk through the main floor to see that all was in order. He pulled down the shades on the sunny side of the rooms and prepared things for tea. Tea was served at 5:00 P.M. by the first butler, assisted by the man on duty. After tea, the man on duty prepared the table for dinner. The man off duty would come in also to help with this work at 7:30 P.M. At 7:30 dinner was served by the first butler and one of the men. After dinner about 8:00 P.M., the first butler and one man were done for the day. The other man cleared away the dinner table and was left in charge of the mansion until the family went to bed. When the Vanderbilts rang, the lights were turned out and at that time the night man would take charge of the mansion until the next morning. 258

3. Duties of the Housekeeper: The housekeeper had charge of the linen closet. Each morning she would issue to the butlers the linen needed for the meals for that day. She hired maids, cooks, other women employees; directed work to be done by maids; ordered supplies for mansion; ordered food that the cooks requested. 259

4. Duties of First Cook: (woman) She cooked only for the Vanderbilts, made fancy pastries and put final touches on meals. Every thing was made ready for her. When this was done she had time off. The first cook went directly to the Vanderbilts for menu each day. 259

5. Duties of Second Cook: The second cook had to prepare all meals for servants and had to have every thing ready for the first cook. The Vanderbilts apparently never employed men chefs at the Hyde Park mansion, but always women chefs. The food was prepared in the kitchen, placed in dishes in a dumb waiter and sent up to the butler's pantry, where the first butler would carry it into the dining room. 259

6. Duties of the Kitchen Maid: The kitchen maid assisted the second cook peeling potatoes, washing pots and pans, etc. and worked with the second cook to have all in readiness for the first cook.

7. Duties of the Parlor Maid: This maid took care of the main floor and the rooms on the first floor. The parlor maid also washed all dishes after meals. The good silver and china were always washed in the butler's pantry, never in the kitchen. 259

8. Duties of the Laundry women : They did all laundry work for the mansion. 259

9. Duties of the First Chambermaid: (Interview with Mrs. Farley, March 26, 1954) The First Chambermaid directed the work of all other maids, she in turn took orders from the housekeeper. During Mrs. Vanderbilt's lifetime, there were usually more than 4 chambermaids, but after her death, the number declined to about 3 or 4. The chambermaids divided up the cleaning work in the mansion among themselves, each being given a particular portion to be done each day. 259

10. Duties of the Second Chambermaid; Third Chambermaid and Fourth Chambermaid: ~~These maids reported for work~~ early in the morning, and finished work about two in the afternoon. They assisted the parlor maid to clean the first floor floors, the men's rooms and the main staircase from the third floor to the first floor (72 steps in all). This work was done every day. The three maids divided the work of cleaning the mansion among themselves. The turnover in maids and women employees was high. The hours of the mansion employees were from 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. or later for a seven day week. They were paid by the month. After Mrs. Vanderbilt's death, Mr. Vanderbilt fired no one, but as people quit, he did not refill any positions. 259

11. Duties of the Day Man: First thing in the morning the houseman would attended to the furnace of the mansion, then he would go outside and sweep off the porches of the mansion, assisting the butler to set out the porch furniture. He also brought up wood for the fireplace and then ran errands for the cooks or butlers or did any other odd jobs required. 259 + 260

12. Duties of the Night Man: The night man took charge of the mansion when the lights were turned out and served as night watchman until the next morning when the day man and the butlers came on duty. 258 + 259

At Christmas time all house men were given \$50 by Mr. Vanderbilt and the women house employees were given gifts by the housekeeper down to 1938. 259

STAFF OF VANDERBILT MANSION, HYDE PARK, NEW YORK

MR. AND MRS. FREDERICK W. VANDERBILT

First Butler

Second Man
Third Man

Housekeeper

First Chambermaid
Second Chambermaid
Third Chambermaid
Fourth Chambermaid

Parlor Maid(also helps
butler with
the dishes)

Three Laundry women

First Cook

Second Cook
Kitchen Girl

Day Man (tends furnace, does odd jobs for
butlers, cooks, & housekeeper)

Night Man(Night Watchman)

TOTAL MANSION STAFF = 17 PEOPLE

Based on 258, 259, 260

2. Use of the Mansion by the Vanderbilts

A. Meals for the Vanderbilts alone

1. Breakfast

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt always had breakfast in their rooms when they were in the mansion alone and usually even when they had guests. There were special breakfast sets that matched the color of each of the guest rooms (such as blue, mauve, red, and pink) and the butlers had to be careful that the right colored dishes were put on the right trays for the right rooms. 258

2. Luncheon - 1:15 to 2:00 P.M.

The small family table at the east end of the dining room was used. Mr. Vanderbilt would always sit on the south side of the table and Mrs. Vanderbilt directly opposite him on the north side of the table. The table was always set for four places, even when Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt were alone. The table was used as a bare table with doilies and center piece. The doilies were usually embroidered with flowers, the colors of which were selected to match the flowers, used in the centerpiece. Fresh flowers were used at every meal. Silver plates were never used for lunch, but sometimes china and usually glassware. If china was used it was white china, with bowl and white bon-bon dishes to match. Three courses were usually served for luncheon. The first course was usually fish; the second or main course, lamb or whatever they might prefer; and the third course dessert with fruit and candies. The two fireplaces in the dining room were never used. 258

3. Tea - 5:00 P.M.

Tea for the Vanderbilts or intimate friends would always be served in the den or library at 5:00 P.M. 258

4. Dinner (Supper) for Vanderbilts Alone - 7:30 to 8:00 P.M.

The small family table at the east end of the dining room was used. Mr. Vanderbilt always sat on the south side of the table and Mrs. Vanderbilt directly opposite him on the north side. The table was always set for four places. The flowers that had been used as a centerpiece for luncheon had been removed and replaced with fresh flowers. The table would be covered with a plain white table cloth, with white napkins. In the center of the table would be a silver bowl, filled with fresh flowers, four candlesticks and bon-bon dishes. Eggs were served as a first course and probably an entree. The main course would be chicken or turkey or some type of game. This was followed by dessert, fruit and candies. The two fireplaces in the dining room were never lighted. 258

B. Meals for Intimate Friends or Members of the Howard and Van Alen Families

1. Breakfast

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt always had breakfast in bed. If the guests chose, they also could eat in bed. In that case, they were served with special breakfast trays and sets that matched the color of the particular guest room they were using. If, however, they decided to have breakfast downstairs, they would find the following: The small family table at the east end of the dining room would be covered with a plain white cloth and napkins. On the center of the table would stand a large swivel tray, containing coffee and all the other food for the meal. Guests would sit down, turn the swivel tray around and choose from it what they wished to eat. The table was usually set for breakfast with red china. If anyone were late, fresh and warm food was brought in from the kitchen and set on the tray. 258

2. Luncheon with Intimate Friends or Relatives - 1:15 to 2:00 P.M.

The small family table at the east end of the dining room would be extended. It could be used for from two to nine people. If there were more than nine people, the large table in the middle of the room would be used. A lace cloth would probably be used on the table, underneath it would be a silk or satin cloth which showed through the lace and harmonized with the fresh flowers on the center of the table. The best China or glassware would probably be used, otherwise the service of the luncheon was the same as when Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt were there alone. For a large party sometimes as many as seven or eight courses were served, but for a small party there would be only three or four. The usual luncheon consisted of three courses; fish, lamb or anything else they wished, and dessert with fruits and candies. 258

3. Tea - 5:00 P.M.

Tea for intimate friends or relatives would be served in the den or library. 258

4. Dinner(Supper) for Intimate Friends - 7:30 to 8:00 P.M.

The small table at the east end of the dining room would be extended. Mr. Vanderbilt would sit on the south side of the table and Mrs. Vanderbilt directly opposite him. The table would be covered with a plain white cloth, with white napkins. In the center of the table there would be a silver bowl filled with fresh flowers. If red flowers were used, the table would be set with red china; if pink flowers were used, the table was set with gold and white china. Four candlesticks and a number of bon-bon dishes were on the table. Otherwise, the service was about the same as when the family was alone. 258

The usual courses were first eggs and probably an entree; then, the main course of chicken or turkey or some type of game; and last, dessert with fruit and candies. 258

C. Meals for Important Guests

1. Breakfast

Same as B 1

2. Formal Luncheon - 1:15 to 2:00 P.M.

(Assume that Mrs. Vanderbilt is making plans for a large banquet that included at least 15 people, guests of honor from New York City, and one or two of the neighboring Hudson River families.) Mrs. Vanderbilt would arrange meals for a weekend with important guests days ahead of the time. Details were discussed with the gardener, cooks, and butlers, so that no confusion would occur. The large table in the middle of the dining room would be extended to the proper length. The table would be covered with a yellow satin cloth, if yellow flowers were to be used, and then covered with a lace cloth. Gilt service wear would be used to blend with the yellow flowers and satin cloth. On the center of the table would be placed a tray with a gilt edge in the center of which was a inlaid mirror. In the center of the tray would be placed a gilt bowl filled with fresh yellow roses. The mirror underneath, of course, would reflect the flowers. At each end of the table there would also be placed a large vase of yellow roses, with four or perhaps six smaller vases of yellow roses scattered at different points on the table. Gilt bon-bon dishes, gilt fruit dishes, gilt salt and pepper shakers, and gilt knives and forks would be used. The china would be white with gold bands, that is, very heavily chased gold around the edge with the monogram of the family in the center. The courses served for such a luncheon included: first, hors d'ouvres, then some type of very fancy eggs and an entree. The main dish would be chicken or turkey. This was followed by some type of very fancy ice cream and fancy cakes, with fruit and candies. Mr. Vanderbilt would sit at the east end of the table and Mrs. Vanderbilt at the west end. 261

3. Tea for Important Guests - 5:00 P.M.

Tea for special guests was served in the Drawing or Living Room. 258

4. Formal Dinner (Supper) 7:30 to 8:00 P.M.

The large table in the middle of the dining room would be extended to the proper distance. A monogramed cloth, with napkins to match, would be laid on the table. In the center of the table would be placed a very large round silver tray in which would be

placed a very large silver yacht bowl filled with fresh pink flowers. (A yacht bowl is a large silver bowl given to a gentleman interested in yachting by his friends, it is usually engraved on one side with the flags of the New York Yacht Club, and on the other with the owner's private yacht flag.) Two very heavily chased candelabra would be placed on the table, one at each end. Two more would be set halfway on either side of the yacht bowl. There would be various other ornaments on the table, fruit dishes and bon-bon dishes. The regular silver flatware would be used. If pink flowers were used as a centerpiece, very fine Italian china would be used. The center of these plates was white and the sides were engraved with different types of flowers, principally pink in color. The courses for this meal included soup, fish and then an entree course. The main course consisted of turkey or anything that they might prefer. This was followed by ice cream for dessert. Mr. Vanderbilt would sit at the east end of the table and Mrs. Vanderbilt at the west end. 261

After the dinner was served, the ladies would leave the dining room and go into the drawing room where a demitasse and liqueur would be served. The gentlemen would stay in the dining room, where they would have coffee, liqueur and cigars. In about half an hour they would join the ladies in the drawing room for cards or other amusements. 261

D. Formal Dances at Vanderbilt Mansion

House guests had a formal dinner and other guests invited would come in later. The dance would be given in the drawing room of the mansion. An orchestra would be brought up from New York City for the occasion. Refreshments for the dance were placed on a table in the Main Reception Hall of the Mansion. Dancing stopped at midnight on Saturday night. 261

E. Notes on Use of Other Rooms at Vanderbilt Mansion

1. Drawing Room

The west end of the drawing room was the portion most used by the Vanderbilts. The tapestries here are reported to be the most valuable pieces in the mansion. 261

2. Gold Room (Louis XV Salon or Reception Room)

Mrs. Vanderbilt did not like this room and seldom used it. A closed door meant do not disturb Mrs. Vanderbilt. 261

3. Mr. Vanderbilt's Office

Mr. Vanderbilt carried on his business here. A closed door meant do not disturb him. The fireplace in this room was never used. 261, 262

4. Den and Library (Sitting Room)

Mr. Shears has stated that Mr. Vanderbilt lived in the den for the most part. The chair under the light on the East wall was Mr. Vanderbilt's and the small chair on the South wall was Mrs. Vanderbilt's. The room was used as the family gathering place. 261, 262

F. Vanderbilt Silverware and China at Hyde Park

For those interested in the question of what kind of silverware the Vanderbilts had at Hyde Park, see:

Silver List, October 1911

Inventory of Silver, October 29, 1918

Tax Appraisal of Hyde Park Estate, 1938

This last document also lists all china in the Mansion.

This appraisal gives:

Silverware	pages 107 - 134	total value \$9,083.85
China & Glassware	135 - 142	1,522.80
Linen	143 - 151	1,494.70

IV. DEVELOPMENT OF THE VANDERBILT ESTATE AT HYDE PARK (1895 - 1910)

1895: Description of Vanderbilt Estate

Frederick W. Vanderbilt took possession of his new Hyde Park estate on May 21, 1895.²⁶⁴ A description of the estate as it appeared at that time might be appropriate at this point: "When Mr. Vanderbilt purchased it for \$125,000, the place was some what neglected and run down. Mr. Vanderbilt found a beautiful park all grown up to underbrush. The lawns were covered with the wild growth that nature puts forth under forest trees; and stone walls appeared in all sorts of inappropriate places, the products of tramp labor, for Mr. Langdon was very fond of providing employment for these gentry. There were hot-houses ample but empty, the stables and farm buildings were in a state of extreme dilapidation, and the stately 40 room old mansion, of purest Greek architecture was painted a light pink.²⁶⁴ The mansion stood on a high point overlooking the river, and from it the land descended to the river in a series of natural terraces. The house was surrounded by a noble park of undulating surface, and a lovely brook with many a curve and picturesque waterfall went brawling through the grounds. At one point, there was a quaint little water wheel that made a merry murmur on a summer day. It also served the utilitarian purpose of forcing water to the mansion on the height above.²⁶⁴

"Along the river front of the estate, which covered nearly a mile, there was a thick fringe of wood. The ground rose in natural terraces to the smooth lawns on which a number of old trees stood, like watchful sentinels to guard the venerable old pile with its semi-circular veranda, upheld by graceful Corinthian columns. The portico on the east side was supported by Ionic columns. The brownstone stair-

case led to a fine lawn, beyond which was a grove of fir trees. On the east lawn there were also as on the river side, some fine trees and all through the park could be seen English elms, maples, lindens, beeches and pines with occasional tamarac, dogwood and rare specimens of South American and Japanese trees. 265

" Beside the mansion, there were picturesque cottages for the servants, greenhouses, stables, barns and a gashouse. Wooden bridges led over Crum Elbow Creek. Beyond the park, on the other side of the Post Road was the farm, some of which was still in woodland, although the greater part was under cultivation." 265

1895 Plans for the Estate

On June 2, 1895, Mr. E. W. Harrington, former manager of Archibald Rogers' Crumwold Farm, accepted the position as superintendent of the Vanderbilt property.²⁶⁶ By June 23, it was reported that S. H. Brower and C. W. Elliott had just spent a week at Hyde Park for the architects, McKim, Mead and White of New York City, and had completed taking measurements of all the buildings.²⁶⁷ On August 4, the paper reported the following plans for the Vanderbilt estate: "The north and south wing of the present mansion will be torn down and additions built where they stand. Three cottages will be built, one near the middle entrance to the grounds for Mr. Howard, Vanderbilt's representative and relative (Howard Mansion); one for Mr. Wales, a friend (the present Shears house) on three acres of land purchased by Mr. Vanderbilt from Thomas Parker and Miss Banker; and a third for the General Superintendent, Mr. E. W. Harrington, near the farm buildings. 268

"Ten miles of new drives will be laid out, and a new gate house and stable will be erected. The old wooden bridge over the pretty creek which winds through the grounds will be replaced by a new one. The work of remodeling the property will be started this fall and completed next spring." the paper predicted. 268

Plans were also underway for erecting a fourth "cottage", This was the Pavilion (Inn) for Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt as we shall see. All four houses were designed by McKim, Mead and White.

The newspaper reported on August 18: "More men were added to the force on the Vanderbilt place the past week, and we are pleased to see that nearly all are residents of this place (Hyde Park)." 269

On September 1, it announced "a large force of men are at work tearing down the old stables and carriage house on the Vanderbilt place." 270

On September 8, it noted "the wall of the coach house on the Vanderbilt place caved in on Wednesday night last. Several men were at work at the time and they had a very narrow escape from being crushed."

crushed." One was badly injured. In conclusion, the paper stated, "All the men and boys in the village who care to work, have secured positions on the Vanderbilt estate."² This work was being carried out under the direction of the Norcross Brothers, contractors for McKim, Mead and White. By October 20, such progress had been made, the paper declared that "15 of the men employed by the Norcross Brothers on the Vanderbilt estate were discharged on Friday, the work being about completed." ²⁷²

Other projects were also underway. On November 17, Frank Curran of Rhinebeck, who had secured the contract for clearing the three ponds on the Vanderbilt estate, began the work of cleaning Sherwood pond and the paper noted "many hundred of fish were caught by the men and boys after the water was left off."²⁷¹ In December, 2 scow loads of brick and one barge containing 400 ton of crushed stone arrived at Hyde Park for use on the Vanderbilt property.²⁷² On December 16, it was reported that ground had been broken for the Wales House.²⁷³ By December 29, labor trouble slowed this work, for the newspaper stated "the men employed by Contractor Allen taking the rock from the cellar where one of the houses in the Vanderbilt place is to be erected, went on strike on Friday." ²⁷⁶

In a feature article on December 29, 1895, the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier revealed fairly well what had been accomplished that year. It wrote "The modest dwellings which satisfied wealthy landowners along the Hudson half a century ago from year to year are disappearing. On their sites are rising baronial halls fit for royalty." After citing the Odgen Mills mansion at Staatsburg as an example of this new trend, it turned to Mr. Vanderbilt. "He is having the old house on the bluff torn down and will replace it with a modern mansion 198 feet long and 86 feet wide to cost between \$400,000 and \$500,000 He shows a disposition to spend much of his time at Hyde Park and has had erected for the convenience of his neighbors who may drive over to see him, a club house (The Pavilion) costing \$50,000. It is a comfortable, two story structure with porches on three sides. In it are bedrooms, a large drawing room, with balcony around it, kitchen, servant's rooms, etc. On the roof is a promenade protected by a railing. The building is finished inside with hard wood. Outside walls are mortar with sea gravel spattered over it. The floors are of alternate wide and narrow boards caulked like the deck of a vessel. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt have bedrooms in the second story on the south of the building."²⁷⁷ (See below for a detailed description of the Pavilion in 1896 when the Vanderbilts were living in it.) *pp. 43 - 44*

"Preparations are so far advanced that it is likely Mr. Vanderbilt's big house will be started this winter Surveyors and dredgers are now at work cleaning the mud from the bottom of the lake and stream." ²⁷⁷

"On the east side of the old Post Road opposite Mr. Vanderbilt's house, foundations are being put in for a handsome dwelling for Mr. T. Howard, who several years ago married Miss Post, Mrs. Vanderbilt's niece. Mr. Howard has given much of his time to directing improvements being made on Mr. Vanderbilt's country place." 277

Summary of Progress made in 1895

From the evidence presented, it seems clear that McKim, Mead and White concentrated their efforts on building the Pavilion for Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt. This building was completed by the end of 1895. A start had been made on the foundations of both the Howard Mansion and the Wales House in December of 1895. Other work in process by 1895, included the cleaning of Sherwood pond and preparations were about ready to begin work remodeling the Langdon mansion.

1896 Work on the Estate

Work on the Langdon mansion was started in January, but was suspended by January 23 (see building mansion for details). It was discovered that the center section of the Langdon house was in such poor condition that it would be impossible to save it; this made necessary a major revision in the plans of McKim, Mead and White. Heavy snows in January also stopped work on the cleaning of the pond and on the Howard Mansion and the Wales House..

On March 1, the newspaper announced "work has been resumed on the cottages (the Howard Mansion and Wales House) which are being erected on the Vanderbilt estate" 278 and on March 8, "the work of removing the muck from the Sherwood pond was commenced Thursday." 280

In May, a large force of men were put to work on the estate 281 and two scow loads of crushed stone were received at Hyde Park for use on the roads on the Vanderbilt property. 282

In June, it was announced that "work has been commenced on the 283 greenhouses which are to be erected on the Vanderbilt place." (See plan; Hyde Park Garden, 1897 and six items: Specifications of the Construction and Materials Required in the Erection of Two Glass Houses for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park . . . by John A. Scollay, Horticultural Architect and Builder and Hot Water Engineer, Brooklyn, N. Y., dated July 26, 1897; also July 14, Plans for, by Hitching & Co., 233 Mercer St., N. Y. Dated July 13, 1897; Contract made between John A. Scollay, 74 & 76 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, N. Y. & F. W. Vanderbilt to erect two greenhouses (lean-to) and heating apparatus for \$1,664.00, dated August 3, 1897; and agreement between Scollay and Henry Myers & Son to do most of the mason work on the two greenhouses for \$499.00 dated August 28, 1897.)

A feature article in the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier for July 19, 1896, draws an excellent picture of progress made on the Vanderbilt estate. "The improvements which F. W. Vanderbilt is making in the Walter Langdon property at Hyde Park . . . are bringing out the natural advantages and making of it one of the loveliest summer homes . . .

"Across (east of) the Post Road is the larger part of the estate, and here the plan is to leave nature undisturbed. Since Mr. Vanderbilt has bought this place he has constructed through this portion of it a drive that adds much to its charm as well as to the accessibility. Little was necessary beyond blasting out such rocks as were in the road, cutting down a few trees, spanning the brooks, and following the natural windings of a forest path. It is an ideal drive with outcropping ledges, over-reaching forest trees, masses of ferns growing down to the wagon tracks, and sweet wild flowers along its whole extent. As you wind along in the midst of its solitude and verdure, you might imagine yourself far away in the Adirondack forest, so sweet and still is the fragrant woodland, but presently a turn in the road brings you again to the highway; the scream of the whistle on the Hudson River (rail) road is in your ears, some gay coaching party whirls past, and you realize that the age of the faun and druid is past.

"Mr. Vanderbilt is making many improvements in the place. A large force of men is at work draining and grading, with careful instructions not to interfere with the natural beauties of the property. During the winter a beautiful pond was cleared out. About \$30,000.00 worth of valuable muck was removed from the bottom; and the miniature lake, much improved, reflects the fresh summer green of the trees that bend over it, while a small fortune in fertilizer awaits disposal in an adjoining field. Verily, as the old rustic said, "Them as has, gets!"

"In addition to these improvements, there is extensive building in progress. A bachelor's lodge (the Pavilion) has been constructed, built on the site of the old (Langdon) carriage-house of which the general outlines have been carefully followed. The broad driveway of the carriage-house has been turned into the entrance hall of the Lodge. This contains an immense fireplace, and is to be used as the general assembly room, dining room and lounging place . . .

"The furnishings of the Lodge show traces of a feminine hand. The entrance hall is nearly covered with a large and beautiful rug. One may judge the size of the room when he learns that upon the rug stands a dining-table, a writing table, and a completely equipped card table. Around the room are scattered every variety of comfortable couch and lounging-chairs, making the hall the beau ideal of a bachelor's headquarters. Opening off this hall on the north are small rooms, just the depth of the old stalls. On the north is the butler's pantry, and beyond is the kitchen. Besides these there are on this floor several

bath rooms, with eight cistern shower baths. The purpose of this being to furnish free and easy accommodation for bachelor friends of Mr. Vanderbilt, the bathrooms are for their refreshment on coming in from golf or tennis, the kitchen appointments for the concoction of game suppers, and the main hall for smoking parties and the story telling and gossip so dear to the masculine heart. There will no doubt, be much merriment in this snug little pavilion in time to come, but at present, it wears the aspect of quiet domesticity, since Mrs. Vanderbilt has taken up her residence there in the dismantled condition of the Hall (the old Langdon mansion). Her rooms on the second floor though small, are brightened by a variety of exquisite feminine trifles. Carpets in plain colors cover the floors, and the walls are beautifully decorated. A novel arrangement in curtains drapes the doors. It has always been a problem how to retain in a room the doors, which one often wants to close, and still have the graceful effect of portieres. This is managed in the Vanderbilt cottage by a jointed curtain pole, which being fastened to the door itself opens and shuts with it. Drapery on another pole above the door conceals the upper moulding, and gives a dainty finish to the whole. On the other side of the door is hung another curtain so that when the door is open you still have the draped doorway. As the curtains are of the softest and richest kind, the effect is very charming.

"A gallery surrounds the large central hall, and from it opens the rooms in the second story. Above this one, ascends by a narrow stairway to the roof, and here you step out through a veritable hatchway on what seems to be a veritable deck, with gunwale, canvas floor and all complete. It is easy to imagine a merry party of men gathered up here among the tops of the trees on a summer night for a comfortable smoke before turning in."

"Besides the Lodge, already complete, there are in process of construction and nearly finished, two other houses to be occupied by friends or relatives of the Vanderbilts. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt have no children, and they seem to have a fondness for making homes for people. One of these houses is to be for Mr. and Mrs. Howard of New York. Mrs. Howard is a niece of Mrs. Vanderbilt and was a Post. Her house (The Howard Mansion) stands on an elevated ridge (Mr. Howard - 284 picked out the site himself) on the east side of the highway, commanding a delightful view of the surrounding country and the Hudson. It is a long, low picturesque building, made of stone. The material used in its construction was in great part taken from the old stone walls; care being taken to select rocks which had moss and lichens on them and to leave these growths undisturbed. The house is approached by a natural driveway, winding along by one of those ledges of rock which add so much to the beauty of the estate."²⁸ (The Howard family called this house "The Craigs")²⁹ Note: for Howard Mansion, see colored drawing by McKim, Mead and White, 1895 - study for proposed Thomas H. Howard Mansion;

also Proposed House for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. at Hyde Park on the Hudson, First Story Plan, for the E. Wales House, by McKim, Mead and White, 1895, also three studies for Second Floor Plan, by same.)

"The other house (The Wales House) is to be occupied by Mr. Wales, a friend of Mr. Vanderbilt. It is a comparatively commonplace structure of red brick, standing at the south end of the estate near the highway (to the river). After the completion of these houses, Mr. Vanderbilt will erect a dwelling for Mr. E. W. Harrington, superintendent of the estate, to whose tireless energy so much of the improvement already seen is due.²⁸⁰ (For the Wales House: see Three Studies - Cottage for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park on the Hudson, First Floor Plan, for the E. Wales House, by McKim, Mead & White, 1895, also three studies for the Second Floor Plan, by same.) *note; for description of Wales House, see P&W July 17, 1895 p 16 Rooms, Georgian Architecture, etc.*

"The old Greek mansion (The Langdon House), . . . will soon be a thing of the past. It seems a pity to destroy the portico- one of the most perfect specimens of the Greek portico in the country - but investigation has shown that the foundations are insecure, and the improvements at first contemplated are out of the question. An elegant mansion, rivaling the far-famed Biltmore palace, will be erected on the old site during the coming months. Work will be started in about six weeks."²⁸⁵

In July of 1896, the paper reported the arrival at Hyde Park of several scow loads of brick for use on the mansion and during the first week of September, it was announced that work on the new mansion had been started.²⁸⁶ Twenty Italian laborers, imported from outside, were busily engaged in tearing the old Langdon mansion down.²⁸⁹

In October, masons from New York City began laying the foundations for the Vanderbilt mansion²⁹⁰ and more crushed stone was barged in for roads.²⁹¹

In November, the first cut stone for the mansion arrived.²⁹²

In December, a large derrick was erected at the mansion,²⁹³ but by the end of the month it was necessary for the contractors, the Norcross Brothers, to suspend work on the mansion because of the heavy snows.²⁹⁴

Summary of Progress in 1896

McKim, Mead and White completed work on the Howard Mansion and the Wales Place. They began work on the new Vanderbilt Mansion in September. Two new greenhouses were erected, Sherwood pond was cleaned, and new roads were added to the estate.

1897 Work on the Estate

Work was pushed ahead on so many fronts in 1897 that it seems wise to treat each subject individually for this year.

Work on the Mansion(see Building Vanderbilt Mansion for details)

In general, Norcross Brothers pushed ahead vigorously the work on the mansion. Work on the mansion was resumed in March and continued until the end of the year. The water system, heating system, and electrical system were installed in the mansion. Artists began work on the interior decorations of the mansion in the summer of 1897. By November, the stone brick work on the mansion had been largely completed.

Water System

As has been noted, Henry Myers and Son were awarded in December, 1896, the contract for erecting a stand-pipe on the Vanderbilt estate.²⁹⁵ On March 28, 1897, the paper reported that "a large number of men are at work erecting the iron stand-pipe at the Vanderbilt place."²⁹⁶

On March 21, the newspaper announced "Work has been commenced on the water works on the Vanderbilt place. A large force of boys are at work digging the ditches for the pipes, as men would not work for the low wages paid by the contractors."²⁹⁷ The contractors for this work were W. R. Hiscox and Company, Engineers and Contractors, of New York City. (see below)

Excellent progress was apparently made for on May 2, the paper announced that "P. C. Doherty, a plumber of Poughkeepsie, has a contract to lay 10,000 feet of water pipe through the grounds."²⁹⁸ On November 7, the paper also reported "By the erection of a large dam, F. W. Vanderbilt of Hyde Park, will secure water for domestic uses and at the same time secure power to generate enough electricity to light his new palace."²⁹⁹ Work on the water system was evidently completed in 1897. (See: Plan of Flume Line for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park, N. Y. by W. T. Hiscox & Co., Engineers and Contractors, 28 Cliff Street, N. Y. with letter to Mr. Vanderbilt, dated February 10, 1897; also Map of Part of Estate of F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. showing Locations of Pipes, Conduits, etc., Hyde Park, N. Y., dated October, 1897, by W. T. Hiscox & Co.)

Power House

On January 17, 1897, the newspaper stated "Work is to be commenced on the pumping and electrical plant on the Vanderbilt place this coming week"³⁰⁰ On June 4, it was announced that "the work on Mr. Vanderbilt's mansion is progressing rapidly now. He is to light it with electricity, and is having a plant put in."³⁰¹ The power house must have been nearing completion in October for on the 10 th of that month, the paper stated "Alrich, the roofer, . . . also has the contract for roofing the power house on Mr. Vanderbilt's place at Hyde Park." Finally it was stated on

November 7, that Mr. Vanderbilt was planning to erect a large dam to secure power to generate enough electricity to light his new palace.³⁰³ This work was apparently done by W. T. Hiscox & Co. Engineers and Contractor of New York City (see Plan for Pipes, Conduits, etc., Oct. 1897 - already cited under water system, this plan shows power house and dam.)

Two Bridges (White Bridge and Bridge near Coach House)

On June 13, 1897, it was announced "W. T. Hiscox & Co. has been awarded the contract for the building of a large bridge on the Vanderbilt place."³⁰⁴ This was to replace the old Langdon frame bridge that crossed Crumb Elbow Creek to the Post Road.³⁰⁵ On June 20, it was reported "W. T. Hiscox & Co. of New York City have been awarded the contract for building another large bridge on the Vanderbilt estate."³⁰⁶ This second bridge was probably the one that leads to the coach house.

The first bridge, known as the White Bridge, was to be, for then, a very modern steel and concrete Melan arch bridge. The engineering firm of W. T. Hiscox & Co., New York City designed the bridge and assigned Owen Morris, Civil Engineer of Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie, as superintendent of construction.

On October 3, it was reported that "a large force of men is at work day and night on the new bridge on the Vanderbilt Avenue (this would be White Bridge), in order to get in the concrete before the frost comes."³⁰⁷ On November 21, it was stated "work on the concrete bridge on the Vanderbilt place has been discontinued. It is said some trouble between the contractors and workmen is the trouble."³⁰⁸ It appears that work on these two bridges were completed in 1897. (See: Plan; A Melan Arch Construction (Pat. Sept. 12, 1893) Bridge for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park, New York, W. T. Hiscox & Co., Engineers and Contractors, New York - colored sketch of bridge, 1897; also: Three Plans: Concrete Steel Bridge for F. W. Vanderbilt Esq. Hyde Park, N. Y. by Owen Morris, C. E. Supt of Construction.)

Coach House

On May 30, the newspaper reported "Norcross Brothers (contractors also for the mansion) have been awarded the contract for constructing the stables (coach house) on the Vanderbilt place."³⁰⁹ Work must have been pushed vigorously for on December 7, 1897, it was announced "the Vanderbilt stables are now completed, and it is said that Mr. Vanderbilt will soon have his entire stock of horses stabled here."³¹⁰ The Stable or Coach House was designed for Mr. Vanderbilt by the architect R. H. Robertson, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York City (See Plan, 11 sheets, Stables for Frederick W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park, signed as above).

Use of the stables for every following year is revealed by two entries for 1898. On May 1 1898 - "Mr. Vanderbilt's entire stable of horses and carriages are now quartered in the new stable on the river hill." ³¹¹ On December 4, 1898 - "A special horse car took the Vanderbilt horses to New York for the winter months on Tuesday". ³¹²

Other Projects, 1897

Forestry operations, such as trimming trees were apparently pushed in 1897 (see entry, June 27, 1897 - man injured trimming trees). ³¹³

In August, the highway near the Vanderbilt entrance was taken down some feet and was filled in with crushed stone. This work was completed in September. ³¹⁴ Extensive improvements were also made on the sidewalk and road in front of the residence of Mr. Wales on the river hill in October. ³¹⁵

Two more greenhouses were erected in 1897 (see Plans on p. 42 of Report)

The two new greenhouses, erected in 1896, were now in full operation for on November 7, Mr. Vanderbilt entered for the first time the annual flower show of the Dutchess County Horticultural Society, which was held at the Poughkeepsie Armory. ³¹⁶ This he did almost every year until 1913, when the flower show seems to have been discontinued.

1898 Work on the Estate

Mansion (see Building Vanderbilt Mansion for details)

Work was pushed apace on the mansion. Plasterers, stone carvers and interior decorators were still busy in the mansion. On December 1, 1898, Norcross Brothers, the contractors for McKim, Mead and White, finished their part of the work on Vanderbilt mansion, but much still remained to be done.

Three Gate Houses

On March 27, 1898, the newspaper announced that "Norcross Brothers have contracted for the erection of three stone cottages on the Vanderbilt estate. Work will be started at once." ³¹⁷ These included the gate house on the river hill, where the Supt. of National Park Service now lives; the gate house on the Post Road, where Mr. Aaron now lives; and a gate house on the east side of the Post Road at the entrance to the farm portion of the estate.

On June 5, 1898, the paper reported that "Norcross Brothers have commenced work on another cottage at the river entrance to the Vanderbilt estate." ³¹⁸ (Note - August 3, 1902, Supt. of Vanderbilt estate, Herbert C. Shears used this house as his dwelling apparently till Mr. Wales died, October 21, 1922, when he may have moved into the Wales House.) On December 4, the papers stated that Norcross Brothers had

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completed their part of the work on Vanderbilt mansion, This probably included the work on the three gate houses. (See Map showing Main Drive, Property of F. W. Vanderbilt at Hyde Park, October 10, 1895 - shows Post Road, etc. - Three Tracings, Old Post Road, Lodge at South Entrance, first and second floor plans of Lodge (plans for Lodge not followed) drawings by McKim, Mead and White - see also below)

C. MAIN ENTRANCE (South Gate) Post Road.

On July 31, 1898, the paper stated "Contractor Myers is erecting the wall for the West (that is, west section of estate - South Gate) entrance to the Vanderbilt estate. It will be built of blue stone. The gate houses and the main entrance or south gate were designed by McKim, Mead and White and the work performed by the contractors, The Norcross Brothers. (See Plan: Hyde Park, South Entrance. F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. Enclosed in plans is "Specifications of the work to be done in the erection and completion of the Wall and Gate Posts of the Main entrance to the Grunds of F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq. at Hyde Park. Cut Granite and Marble Work in accordance with the plans prepared by and under the general superintendence of McKim, Mead & White, Architects, 160 Fifth Ave., New York City, dated April 1898. 14 pages. Identified and acknowledged as part of Contract, dated April 11, 1898 by Norcross Brothers.

D. Maps

The paper reported on April 3, 1898 "Mr. Owen Morris, surveyor of this village, has been authorized by Mr. F. W. Vanderbilt to make an elaborate topographical survey and map of Mr. Vanderbilt's estate here." 322 This was done and the results were two maps, One for the Western Portion and the second for the Eastern Portion of the Hyde Park estate. These are the best source for a historical base map, showing in detail roads, buildings, etc. in existence in 1898.

Other Projects in 1898

In June 1898, Mr. E. S. Foster was awarded a contract for repairing the farm barns (east of Post Road) on the Vanderbilt estate. This work was started at once. 323

In September 1898, Mr. E. S. Wales had a iron fence erected in front of his residence on the river road. 324

In 1898, Mr. Vanderbilt also gave 3/4 of the \$18,000.00 necessary to erect a new bridge on the Albany Post Road over Crum Elbow Creek. 325

1899 Work on the Estate

A. Mansion Finished, April 30, 1899

From January to the end of April 1899, skilled workmen and artists continued to work on the interior of the mansion. By the end of April, the furniture was moved in and on May 12, 1899, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt entertained their first house party in the new mansion.

B. Cleaning the Ponds

In March of 1899, men were put to work cleaning the muck out of the upper ponds and in July, they were still at work on the other ponds.³²⁶

C. Replanting Trees

In February and March of 1899, many men were employed in transplanting large trees taken from the nearby forests to the Vanderbilt estate, "where they are being set in the place of the trees on the main avenue, which died last fall."³²⁷

D. Other Projects

On July 16, the paper reported "a beautiful marble fountain is being set up on the lawns directly in front of the Vanderbilt mansion by Fisher & Co. of New York City."³²⁸

In November, it was announced that "Mr. F. W. Vanderbilt is improving his farm (the eastern section of the estate) by having built through it some fine roads and driveways."³²⁹

Finally, in December, it was stated that "a large addition is being built to the house occupied by Mr. Howard on the Vanderbilt place."³³⁰

1900 Work on the Estate

In January, February and March of 1900, a large number of trees were transplanted. In January, many evergreen trees were removed from the Jena Woods to the Vanderbilt estate.³³¹ Mr. Shears states that the Avenue of Maples from the entrance to the concrete bridge were set in 1900.³³² In March of that year, it was noted "A number of trees are being brought here from Salt Point, also a number of Indian birch trees from New Jersey for the Vanderbilt estate."³³³

In June, it was announced that H. Myers had a force of men at work cleaning the stones in the Vanderbilt mansion.³³⁴ Other than this, no changes appear to have been taking place on the estate.

1901 Work on the Estate

On June 30, 1901, the paper stated "Mr. Burnett of Morristown has accepted the position of Superintendent of the Vanderbilt estate."³³⁵

A. Farm Barns

On June 30, 1901, the paper said "It is said that the contract for erecting the large farm barns on the Vanderbilt estate have been awarded to Cregan & Collins, a large contracting firm from Morristown,

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New Jersey, and that the work will be started at once." Work was pushed and on October 13, 1901, the paper reported "the new farm barns on the Vanderbilt estate are completed and are the finest in the country." 337

B. Carriage House for Howard Mansion

On August 25, it was reported "a large carriage house will soon be erected on the Vanderbilt estate for Thomas Howard." 338 On October 27, 1901, the paper noted "T. H. Howard's new coach house is completed and is a very pretty building." 339

1902 Work on Estate

Nothing of importance was apparently done. On August 3, 1902, the paper noted "Superintendent Shears of the Vanderbilt estate, took a trip to Delaware County on Wednesday and returned with a bride. The happy couple have taken up their residence in the cottage at the river entrance to the estate." 340 Mr. Shears says he came with Mr. Vanderbilt in 1901. 341

1903 Work on the Estate

On February 22, 1903, the paper reported "A number of interior decorators from New York City are at work remodeling the interior of several rooms of the Vanderbilt mansion." 342 One of these rooms was the Gold Room, the work being done by George A. Glaenzer (see Building Vanderbilt mansion for details).

The Italian Gardens

On March 15, 1903, the newspaper stated "A firm from Newark, New Jersey, will soon start work on the proposed Italian Garden on the Vanderbilt estate. It is said that this garden will start from a point near the river entrance to the estate and will be laid out in terraces to the highest point of the hill and that it will be a marvel of beauty when completed." 343 On July 26, 1903, the paper reported "The work on the Italian garden on the Vanderbilt estate has been completed. The work was started in April and a large number of men have been employed there. It will be a year or probably two years before the garden will show its real beauty." 344 Mr. Shears says that "Greenleaf did the perennial garden in 1902-1903 on a cost-plus basis for about \$14,000.00. Mr. Vanderbilt was disgusted with the price and waste of labor and refused to do more with the gardens for several years." (See about 60 sheets, Plans for Italian Gardens, by James L. Greenleaf, Landscape Architect, No. 1 Broadway, New York City, plans dated, October 26, and November, 1902 through April 24, 1903.

"Structural reconstruction of the then existing gardens by Mr. Vanderbilt's landscape architect, Mr. Greenleaf included the addition of the pergola, pool-garden, connecting walk, pool, colonnade and garden-

house terminating the walk and pool-garden. Minor revisions in the widths of the paths bordering the upper bedding gardens were made and separating walls, piers and ironwork panels were introduced between the upper bedding gardens and the newly constructed gardens to the east. The general result of this construction was the unification of the two garden units by the creation of a combined axial walk and terminal garden feature, and the introduction of varied character in the gardens by the contrasting treatment and compartmentation of garden units. ") (From Master Plan Sheet.)

1904 Work on the Estate (None)

1905 Work on the Estate

On October 15, 1905, the newspaper reported "The Sexton estate at Hyde Park, known as Torham, for many years the country seat of the late Samuel B. Sexton, was sold at a trustees' sale in New York on Wednesday (Oct. 11) to F. W. Vanderbilt. The price paid was \$31,000.00. 346

"This handsome estate adjoins Mr. Vanderbilt's place on the north and will make a handsome addition to his property. A few years ago the Sexton mansion was destroyed by fire and has never been rebuilt. There are, however, several buildings on the estate, including the cottages for gardener and coachman, also conservatories, carriage house, boat house, farm barns and other buildings (for these see Plan of Torham, Estate of Late Samuel B. Sexton, near Hyde Park, Dutchess County, New York, 64.22 acres, by Benjamin Brevoort, Civil Engineer, 54 Market St., Poughkeepsie, New York.)"

Work was begun at once on this new addition. On October 29, it was reported that John Farley (Mr. Vanderbilt's tree man) injured his hand badly while trimming the trees on Mr. Vanderbilt's newly acquired property, Torham. 349

On December 3, the paper discussed the development of Torham. "There was a rumor to the effect that Mr. Vanderbilt intended to remain in America all winter because of certain contemplated plans regarding the Sexton estate which adjoins his own on the north

"This, however, was found to be untrue. There is nothing about the contemplated plans that will call for Mr. Vanderbilt's remaining in America. It consists of 80 acres (actually 64.22 acres) and men have been put to work upon it for a month past putting it in a condition to match Mr. Vanderbilt's present estate . . . It is to be laid out practically the same style - on the park plan." (Two Palm houses erected in 1905 see plan #52) 348

1906 Work on the Estate

Work on the Sexton estate continued in 1906. All of the buildings on the estate with the exception of the boat house (removed by the N. P. S. in 1952), were torn down.

A. North Gate and Wall

On April 8, 1906, the paper stated "a large load of stone has arrived for Henry Myers, to be used in the erection of a fence on the Sexton place . . . 349 ." On September 16, the paper reported "Mr. Henry Myers, has finished the north entrance on the estate of Mr. F. W. Vanderbilt. The evergreen planting was completed one day the past week, with very pleasing effect, adding materially in beautifying this very handsome entrance." 350

B. Subway

On May 27, the paper announced: "F. W. Vanderbilt is having a large range of fountains placed on the lawns at his Hyde Park place, and is also building a subway under the Post Road to a pond near his mansion for the use of teamsters and delivery wagons. The subway will be 16 feet wide. It will do away with Mosquito Avenue." 351 (see Plans of Tunnel and Road for F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park, New York, Office of E. Burnett, 11 East 24th St., New York City). On August 26, the newspaper reported "McNamee and Rice will begin work on the State Road, which is to be constructed from the Poughkeepsie line to the lower line of the Vanderbilt estate when the subway is completed . . . " 352 On October 14, it was stated "The subway on the Vanderbilt estate being nearly completed, the contractor is now busy on the new State Road. They are now opposite the Rogers estate . . . " 353

In discussing the Sexton estate in 1943, Mr. Shears said "Torham was purchased about 1904 (1905). The wall across the front of the Sexton place was then built. The Exit road was relocated and the Avenue of maple trees to Torham (the old mansion) was removed. Torham, the house, had burned. The tunnel was built under the Post Road about 1908 (1906) . The Screen Planting of pines from the north wall on the Sexton estate to the tunnel was done by Shears in off seasons from 1904 (1906) to 1937." 354

C. Alterations to the Mansion(See building Vanderbilt Mansion for details)

In 1906 there occurred the final major alteration to the Vanderbilt Mansion. Whitney Warren, Architect of New York City, carried out alterations to the living room and to the light well in the main reception hall of the mansion. The plans for this work are dated "Approved March 24, 1906" and on August 26, 1906, the paper stated "a large force of men are employed on the interior of the Vanderbilt mansion to be in readiness for the return of the family about the middle of September." 355

1907 Work on the Estate

On April 28, the paper reported "a new greenhouse is being erected on the Vanderbilt estate. Henry Myers is doing the mason work".³⁵⁶ (See Plan for Rose House #54 - Plan by Pierson U-Bar Co., New York City March 8, 1907, revised April 4, 1907.

1908 Work on the Estate

Nones. December 6 paper reported "Mr. Vanderbilt has purchased a new Thomas cab automobile which we understand he intends using while in his New York home."³⁵⁷

1909 Work on the Estate

On March 28, the newspaper announced "By an arrangement with the Town Board of Hyde Park, F. W. Vanderbilt has agreed to straighten the old Post Road where it passes his property by taking out the curve north of the handsome stone bridge which he erected several years ago. Mr. Vanderbilt is standing all the expenses of the enterprise himself.

"The surveys have been made by Benjamin Brevoort, of this city, who is still working out the details. Mr. Vanderbilt will give the land needed for the new stretch of roadway and will take in exchange the abandoned strip of highway.

"After this improvement is completed it is understood that Mr. Vanderbilt will build a handsome stone wall along his property where it fronts on the Post Road.³⁵⁸ (See Maps # 9 & # 10, Proposed Alteration of Highway, Hyde Park, by Benjamin Brevoort, C. E. of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., both dated December 28, 1908.)

1910 Work on the Estate

Mr. Shears said that the circle drive in front of the mansion was relocated in 1910 because the old road let visitors come too near the mansion. (See map #28 for location of old circle).³⁵⁹

In 1910, alterations were also apparently made to the stables (coach house) to adjust it for use also as a garage. (See Plan showing Proposed Alterations to Garage and Stable of F. W. Vanderbilt, Esq., Hyde Park, New York, by R. H. Robertson (who originally designed the building) and Son, 160- 5th Ave., New York City, dated January 11, 1910 and stamped sent January 17, 1910).

On June 12, 1910, the paper reported "Through the falling of a scaffold over a greenhouse on the Vanderbilt place, . . . (two painters were injured)".³⁶⁰ This apparently refers to the below work on the Italian Gardens:

"During this period perennial beds were added to the pool garden and the rose garden was constructed in its present location, east of the pool garden and connected to it by a symmetrical step-terrace transition. This was done by Thomas Meehan and Sons, Nurserymen and Landscape Contractors (1910, 1916, 1917) of Mount Airy, Philadelphia, Pa. A Loggia and pool were built as a terminus for the rose garden." (From M. P. S. Master Plan). (See also Plans #45, June 8, 1910; #46, June 10, 1910; #47, June 14, 1911 not used; #48, April 15, 1910.)

1911 Work on the Estate

None.

1912 Work on the Estate

In 1912, the railroad bridge leading to the boat house on the Sexton estate was reconstructed by the Railroad (See Plans #12, #13, Reconstruction of Bridge #224, NYC & HRR, dated January 16, 1912).

1913 Work on the Estate

On February 16, 1913 the paper stated "H. C. Shears, superintendent of the Vanderbilt estate, is having quite a number of evergreen trees moved." 361

1914 Work on the Estate

None, On April 26, the paper reported "that Mr. Vanderbilt purchased in Poughkeepsie a five passenger 1914 Cadillac Touring Car." He already has a Renault and Stearns in his garage. 362

On June 7, 1914 according to the paper "Cecil Halpin has resigned his position at Crumwold and accepted a position at the Vanderbilt Greenhouse." 363

1915 Work on the Estate

Reported by the paper on January 10, 1915 "Bart Pollard, foreman on the Vanderbilt estate, with his men is engaged in moving trees this winter, They have about 200 to move, and some are pretty large ones at that." 364

1916 Work on the Estate

It was reported on April 23, "Mr. John Farley (Vanderbilt's tree-man), who had the misfortune to fall from a tree which he was trimming on the Vanderbilt estate, is improving . . ." 365

1917 Work on the Estate

None. Note: March 18, 1917 - "The employees of the Rogers and Vanderbilt estates are to have a nine hour day and two dollars per day." 366

1918 Work on the Estate

On February 3, the paper stated "The moving of trees on the Vanderbilt estate has been discontinued for the present and the men employed are cutting wood to keep the many fires burning." During World I, wood was used instead of coal to heat the greenhouses. 368

1919 Work on the Estate

In 1919, a iron fence was placed on top of the stone wall along the Albany Post Road. The fence was removed by the N. P. S. in 1942 and given to the Red Cross (See Plan #2 - Plan for Iron Fence on Albany Post Road, by J. W. Fiske Iron Works, 56 - 58 Park Place, New York, dated July 14, 1919.

The paper noted on September 21, 1919, Mr. Vanderbilt entered his first Dutchess County Fair at Rhinebeck. He exhibited pure-bred horses and Jersey cattle. 369

1920 & 1921 Work on the Estate

None.

1922 Work on the Estate

On February 19, 1922, the paper reported under heading "Forestry Idle Land: Following is a listed of applications for trees for Dutchess County which have been filed by the Conservation commission since the reforestry movement began : . . . Archibald Rogers, 129,000 trees; Thomas Newbold, 1,000; Franklin D. Roosevelt, 41,000 trees; H. C. Shears, 1,000 trees . . ." 370

On September 3, 1922, Mr. Vanderbilt entered his second Dutchess County Fair and won prizes for his horses. H. C. Shears won prizes for the ten best vegetables grown by a professional. 371

"(Design revisions of the pergola, pool garden walls and perennial borders were made by Mr. Robert B. Cridland, Landscape Architect of Philadelphia and Atlanta during 1922, 1923, and 1934. A trellis and arbor treatment were introduced along the walk west of the pool garden. The allee of cherry trees, with its supporting borders, was planted on either side of the cherry walk south of the pergola. Grade and planting changes were also made in connection with revised wall construction.

"In addition to these alterations, certain garden units, namely the upper bedding garden and the lower bedding garden (indicated as "lower turf garden" on plan), have evolved into their present form through the successive efforts of the several gardeners attached to the estate. The existing shapes of the beds in these garden units are shown in dotted line on the plan." (From H.P.S. Master Plan) see also Plans # 42, dated April 30, 1917; April 15, 1922; Sept. 1934; Feb. 1923, May 2, 1922, Feb. 15, 1916.)

1923 Work on the Estate

In the Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier of December 23, there is a statement that Newton G. Armstrong of Armstrong Tree Service, Lt. of Poughkeepsie, New York was handling tree work on the Vanderbilt estate. 372

On September 2, 1923, Mr. Vanderbilt entered his third Dutchess County Fair and won many prizes for his horses and Hersey cattle. Mr. Shears also won many prizes for his vegetables from the Vanderbilt farm. 373

Other Notes see supplements, p. 72 (County fairs, p. 71)

For Gardener's Cottage, Greenhouse and Tool House, see Plans #37 & 59: Walter Langdon Esq., Hyde Park, New York; Plans for Tool House, Greenhouse, Gardeners Cottage, no date, by John H. Sturgis and Charles Brigham, Architects; also Prospective view of Proposed Greenhouse for Walter Langdon, . . by Sturgis and Brigham, Architects, Boston, December 9, 1874.

The Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier, July 3, 1938^{p 27} - Obituary of F. W. Vanderbilt reported: "The estate, today, comprises 631 acres, assessed for \$324,450.00.

The same paper on July 10, 1938^{p 5} reported that 40 people were employed on the Vanderbilt estate as farm workers and ground-keepers, in addition to nearly a score of other employees.

Trees, location and names of , see map #28, F. W. Vanderbilt Esq., Hyde Park, N. Y., by Charles A. Platt, Landscape Architect & Jas. L. Burley, Civil Engineer, 45 Broadway, New York, dated June 20, 1901.

V OPERATION OF THE VANDERBILT ESTATE GROUNDS, HYDE PARK, N. Y. 1895-1938

The following information is based on an interview on March 27, 1954, with Mr. ~~MANFIS~~ Newman who worked for Mr. Vanderbilt from September 1, 1920 to November 1938 when the estate closed down; also on newspapers and an interview with Mrs. Farley. 374

The Estate

The estate was directed by Mr. Herbert C. Shears, Mr. Vanderbilt's Superintendent.

Greenhouses & Italian Gardens

These were under the direction of the Head Gardener, Mr. Harry J. Allen, who had four men working for him at all times in the greenhouses; four more men worked at all times in the Italian Gardens; and four more men were employed mowing all the lawns, including the Italian

Gardens, around the mansion and all the way to the north gate. Total 13 men. Mr. Allen died in 1937. The hours for the estate workers from 1920 to 1937 were 9 hours a day (7 A.M. * 5 P.M.). All worked a six day week until 1937 when they were given Saturday afternoon off. The four greenhouse men, dividing this work among them, had to come back twice a night to put coal on the fires and once every four weeks had to work Sunday. From November 1 to April 1 each winter, a night watchman was employed on the estate to make rounds and he would fire the furnaces at night during that season. 374

The Italian Gardens and greenhouses furnished all the flowers for the Hyde Park mansion, they also shipped fresh flowers twice a week to the New York City mansion when the Vanderbilts were using that house; when they were not using it, flowers were shipped twice a week to the hospitals in Poughkeepsie, New York, to be given out to the patients. The Vanderbilt greenhouses also raised Easter lilies, palms and other flowers, which were given each year to the four churches in Hyde Park for the Easter Services. 374

Vegetable Gardens

The Head Vegetable Gardener was Mr. Carl Herrman. Two other men worked for him steadily in the vegetable gardens and one more man was employed for this work during the summer. Total 4 men. The vegetable gardens furnished all the fresh vegetables for the Hyde Park mansion and also supplied the New York City house when the Vanderbilts were there. 374

Stables and Garage

The Coachman was John Donnelly (lived in gate-house torn down in 1942). He employed two other men to care for the pure-bred horses that were stabled in the coach house. About the first of May each year all of Vanderbilt's coach horses would be shipped up to Hyde Park from New York City, remaining at Hyde Park until about December 1, when they would be sent back to New York City by a special railroad car. 374

The Head Chauffeur for Mr. Vanderbilt was William F. Burke; the Second Chauffeur was Douglas Crapper. Total 5 men at Coach house. 374

Cattle

There was a dairy herd of 24 Jersey cattle. The Herdsman was "Cap" Newman; the Dairyman was Everest Newman; one other man was employed to help them. They churned once a week. Sweet butter (Mr. Vanderbilt did not like butter with salt in it) and milk were shipped to New York City for the Vanderbilts when they were there and retained here when the Vanderbilts were at their Hyde Park Mansion. Total 3 men. These men also had charge of the Berkshire pigs which were used for meat. 374

Farm Horses

August Traudt cared for the 15 Belgium draft horses which were maintained for farm work. The nightman, Peter Plain, who served as nightwatchman for the farm section of the estate, assisted in caring for the horses. 374

Poultry Farm

The Head Poultry man was F. E. Crittenden and he was assisted by one other man. They raised between 2,000 and 2,300 white Leghorns, crossed them with game roosters to get meat for Mr. Vanderbilt. They furnished meat and eggs for both the New York City and the Hyde Park houses. Total 2 men. 374

Farm Gang

The foreman was Bart Pollard. He had charge of 4 teamsters and 8 other men. Total 13 men. They raked leaves in the fall, filled the ice houses in the winter, transplanted trees and maintained them, picked dandelions, cut wood for the estate buildings, made hay and plowed. 374

Power House

This was under the charge of the Engineer, John Reeves, who lived in the Gate House by the river entrance. He was the only man employed on that job. 374

Yacht Vedette

The Captain of this yacht was Mr. Winifield S. Treworgy of Maine, and his crew was composed of 22 men. 374

Other Jobs

One man was employed the year around as a painter, doing nothing else. This was Thomas Golden. From November 1 to April 1 of each year, a night watchman was also employed to make rounds of the mansion side of the estate.

Wages and Hours for Estate Workers

In 1899, the wages for farm workers were \$1.50 per day and the hours were from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M., six days a week. In 1917, the employees of the Rogers and Vanderbilt estates were given \$2.00 per day and a 9 hour day, still working six days per week. These hours (7 A.M. to 5 P.M.) continued from 1920 to 1937, but in 1937, farm workers were given Saturday afternoons off. Wages from 1920 to 1937 were apparently gradually raised from about \$40.00 per month to about \$125.00 per month. 375, 374

During Mrs. Vanderbilt's lifetime, all married male estate workers received a turkey, and a single male employee received \$5.00 from her at Thanksgiving every year. At Christmas, she gave all married male farm employees with children \$50.00. These gifts stopped with her death in 1926. 259

From 1895 to 1938, Mr. Vanderbilt gave all farm employees \$10.00 at Christmas. 259

On July 10, 1938, the Boughkeepsie Sunday Courier reported that the Vanderbilt estate had 40 farm workers and nearly a score of other employees on the payroll.

Summary

Total number of people employed on the Vanderbilt estate for the farm, grounds - - - - - 44 people.

Total in the Mansion - - - 17 people.

STAFF FOR GROUNDS OF THE VANDERBILT ESTATE HYDE PARK, NEW YORK 1895 - 1938

Superintendent of Estate (1) Mr. Herbert C. Shears

<u>Greenhouses & Italian Gardens</u> (13 men) Head Gardener- Mr. Harry J. Allen 4 men in greenhouse 4 men in gardens 4 men mowing lawns	<u>Vegetable Gardens</u> (4 men) Head Vegetable Gardener Mr. Carl Herrman 2 men steady in gardens 1 man during summer	<u>Power House</u> (1 man) Engineer-Mr. John Reeves
<u>Coach House & Garage</u> (5 men) Coachman-Mr. Donnelly 2 men to care for pure bred horses Head Chauffeur- Mr. Wm.F. Burke 2nd Chauffeur- Mr. Douglas Crapser	<u>Dairy Farm</u> (3 men) Dairy man-Cap. Newman 24 Jersey cattle & Pigs Herdsman- Everest Newman 1 helper	<u>Farm Horses</u> (2 men) Stable man-Mr. August Traudt 15 Belgium draft horses 1 night watchman for farm section - Mr Peter Plain
<u>Poultry Farm</u> (2 men) Head Poultryman-Mr. F. E. Crittenden 1 helper	<u>Farm Gang</u> (13 men) Foreman- Mr. Bart Pollard 4 Teamsters 8 Laborers	<u>Painters</u> (1 man) Mr. Thomas Golden <u>Night Watchman</u> (1) From Nov. 1 to April 1 for Mansion grounds

Total estate grounds workers - 44 men

Yacht Vedette - 23 men
 Captain Winifield Treworgy
 Crew - 22 men

VI ARCHITECTURE OF THE PAVILION (From NPS Master Plan)

The Pavilion, used by Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt during the construction and furnishing of the mansion, is basically Greek in exterior character. It represents an adaptation of classic Greek architecture with which certain liberties have been taken in the interest of interior arrangement, as reflected in the introduction of more informal details, such as the disposition of window openings and the "Captain's Walk." The result is a rather happy combination of substantial repose, contributed by its classic form; and playfulness lent by its more informal fenestration and detail.

Notes: Designed by McKim, Mead, and White

Contracted by Norcross Brothers, Sept. - Dec. 1895.

Reported Cost \$50,000

Located on site of old Langdon carriage house and following the outlines of this building.

(Interview with Mrs. Farley, March 26, 1954)

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt would spend week-ends during the winter time in the Pavilion. The mansion would be closed during this period. They came up especially for the sleighing. 259

The pavilion was in charge of Mr. and Mrs. McClennon, who had worked for Walter Langdon. They lived in the pavilion the year round. If guests were put in the house, people from Hyde Park would be temporarily employed as cooks and maids, etc. (page 1 of 1) 259

VII ARCHITECTURE OF VANDERBILT MANSION (From NPS Master Plan)

"The mansion is an imposing example of American adaption of Italian Renaissance architecture, created by an outstanding firm of architectural classicists who, by a free use of the architectural vocabulary of the masterful Italian Renaissance designers, evolved an impressive structure, typical of the "great houses" that were built during this era in American history. Its ponderous magnificence is softened by the true grandeur of spacious lawns, dominating view and stately trees."

INTRODUCTION

"The Vanderbilt Mansion, considered by many to be among the finest examples of Italian Renaissance architecture in the United States, was built by the illustrious firm of McKim, Mead and White, between 1895 and 1898. Concerning its designer, Charles Follen McKim, it is said that his buildings "seem to command, bidding you 'Halt' and kneel if need be." Certainly this product of McKim's genius has something like such an effect. Stanford White, Ogden Codman, Whitney Warren, and other noted decorators chose the mansion's furnishings with care and good taste. All conveys a Continental atmosphere, testifying to the

inclination of wealthy Americans, even at the turn of the twentieth century, still to draw upon Europe for much of their inspiration in culture and in art. The Vanderbilt Mansion is figuratively a palace brought over from the Old World and transplanted on the banks of the historic Hudson.

"Roughly speaking, the building has about fifty rooms on four levels, including servants' quarters and utility features like the kitchen and laundry. Its entire construction of reinforced concrete faced with cut stone, is fireproof, except of course, for the interior paneled walls and wood floors . . . "

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

MAIN ENTRANCE VESTIBULE

"The Main Entrance Vestibule is a small room, with high ceiling, which leads from the imposing front portico of the mansion to the Main Reception Hall. It is without distinctive furnishings except for a pair of large Mediterranean green-glazed pottery jars."

MAIN RECEPTION HALL

"Green and white marble, imported from Italy, is used with arresting effect for cornices and pilasters in the elliptically-shaped Main Reception Hall. Above the massive fireplace in this room is a Flemish tapestry bearing the insignia of the powerful Medici of Renaissance times. Most of the other furnishings in the room are Italian, including a gilded table with porphyry top, ten high-backed chairs and two cabinets in tooled walnut, six foot stools, and a large pair of cast bronze andirans. Of unusual interest is a pair of Carrara marble busts, male and female, in heroic size. There are also three stuffed couches upholstered in green cut velvet. A light well is provided by an octagonal-shaped opening in the ceiling, whence light filters through from a sky-light in the Second Floor Main Hall directly above. Two doors on the west side of the room open out to the semi-circular portico which overlooks the majestic Hudson Valley."

FIRST FLOOR NORTH HALLWAY

"The First Floor North Hallway connects the Dining Room and the Main Reception Hall. On its walls are hung a seventeenth century *17th - chest* Brussels and an eighteenth century Aubusson Tapestry. Below the first of these is a gilded Florentine chest with painted front and side panels and lion-claw feet. In this room, also, is a large Chinese bowl with blue dragon design against a white background on a teakwood stand."

DINING ROOM

"An unusually large Ispahan rug three centuries old covers the floors of the expansive Dining Room, on the north side of which are

two fireplaces with carved Renaissance mantels in marble, one bearing the Medici arms and the other taken from a palace of the Emperor Napoleon III. Across the room from the door may be seen two curious planetaria made in London during the eighteenth century. On the south wall is a pair of French tapestries believed to be of Beauvais manufacture. Painted wood panels decorate the ceiling."

FIRST FLOOR SOUTH HALLWAY

"The First Floor South Hallway connects the Drawing Room and the Main Reception Hall. It contains a pair of carved Italian chests in walnut, gilt-decorated, and with dolphin feet; a pair of Venetian torcheres; two Brussels tapestries, probably of the sixteenth century; a pair of small bronze chateau cannon; and a model of Mr. Vanderbilt's yacht "The Warrior", on which the owner once cruised extensively."

DRAWING ROOM

"Italian and French artistry are combined in the Drawing Room, the walls of which are paneled with exquisitely carved Circassian walnut. The grand piano in this room, an American Steinway, was originally decorated in Paris for the home of Mr. Vanderbilt's father in New York City. There are four large tapestries on the walls; two seventeenth century Flemish bearing the Medici arms; and two probably sixteenth century Brussels. Numerous vases and candelabra are mounted in ormolu. Also to be noted in the room are a pair of large Italian refectory tables, a number of Louis XIV and Louis XV chairs and tables, and a Louis XVI table clock of beautiful design and workmanship. The ceiling in this room was installed by H. Siddons Mowbray, the mural painter."

LOUIS XV SALON (GOLD OR RECEPTION ROOM)

"The eighteenth century French Salon, resplendent in gold leaf and ormolu, is an outstanding example of the Rococo style of the Louis XIV period. P. Sormarie, a Parisian firm, made the graceful floor clock which stands in this room. One inset wall panel is tapestried and two others (one above a marble fireplace) contain large mirrors which, reflecting in one another, provide a striking repetition of mirrors to infinity. With the exception of a table and seat of the Louis XVI period, all other furniture in the room is Louis XV. This includes a handsome inlaid escritoire and a wall console of inlaid rosewood."

DEN AND LIBRARY

"Swiss woodcarvers contributed to make the Den and Library one of the most interesting rooms in the mansion. Quiet blue-greens and browns here lend a restful atmosphere, conducive to the study of more than 700 (uncut) volumes on history, literature, natural science, and other subjects. The carved mantel of the fireplace in this room is said to have

come from an European church. In a tapestried panel across the room from this are displayed three Swiss wheel-locks with elaborately carved stocks inset with mother-of-pearl and bone. Mounted deer and elk heads further define the general feeling.

MR. VANDERBILT'S OFFICE

"Adjoining the Den and Library is Mr. Vanderbilt's Office. This is a comparatively small room paneled in Santa Domingo mahogany, with built-in desk, bookcase, and cupboard to match. Over the fireplace in the room are displayed Italian and Spanish flintlock pistols, and in the bookcase may be seen about 350 volumes, mostly novels and travel."

GRAND STAIRCASE

"Refined elegance characterizes the Grand Staircase leading in four flights from the first to the second floor of the mansion. Busts and statues of classical figures decorate the corner niches of the ascent."

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SECOND FLOOR MAIN HALL

"The Second Floor Main Hall is particularly interesting because of the balustrade, said to have been designed by Whitney Warren, which surrounds the light well in the Main Reception Hall directly below. In this room are three eighteenth century Flemish tapestries of floral and pastoral design, two Italian fringed and embroidered hangings, and two sets (one of six and one of four) matched high-back chairs in walnut. There is also a teakwood cabinet of Chinese design, 6 feet high."

SECOND FLOOR NORTH HALLWAY

"The Second Floor North Hallway connects Guest Rooms Nos. 1 and 2 and the Second Floor Main Hall. Here are displayed three oil paintings; one by Bouguereau, a second by Schreyer, and a third by Villegas, all nineteenth century artists. On a carved and gilded Louis XVI table in the hallway is a cloisonne vase with marble base."

GUEST ROOM NO. 1 (BLUE ROOM)

"Guest Room No. 1 is entered from the west side of the Second Floor North Hallway. Its color decoration is principally in blue, white, and gray. Practically all the furnishings are of French design. There are also several English eighteenth century engravings by Reynolds, Lawrence, and others."

GUEST ROOM NO. 2 (MAUVE ROOM) AND BATH

"Guest Room No. 2 decorated in lavender and white, is entered from the east side of the Second Floor North Hallway. Practically all its furnishings are of French design. The bath adjoining, the only one shown to visitors, carries out the same color motif. "

GUEST ROOMS NOS. 3 AND 4 (TWO RED ROOMS)

"Guest Rooms Nos. 3 and 4 are entered from the west side of the Second Floor Main Hall, and are decorated in lavender and rose, respectively. Both are furnished in French style, though less elaborate than Guest Rooms Nos. 1 and 2. "

SECOND FLOOR SOUTH HALLWAY

"The Second Floor South Hallway connects the rooms of Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt with the Second Floor Main Hall. In it are displayed two oil paintings. One of these, by Keller-Reutlingen depicts an oriental market; and the other is a portrait by Sir Peter Lely, the great seventeenth century artist. "

MR. VANDERBILT'S ROOM

"Mr. Vanderbilt's Room is wainscoted in carved burl walnut and paneled in Flemish verdant tapestry. The fireplace has a large carved marble mantel; and on the floor are deep red rugs made in India. Over the bed, which is carved in bas-relief, hangs an early Spanish textile of old pink velvet with a seven-pointed coronets and other designs in applique. Red upholstered chairs and davenport further heighten the effect thus created. A bust of Beethoven testifies to Mr. Vanderbilt's interest in music. "

MRS. VANDERBILT'S ROOM

"Mrs. Vanderbilt's Room is in French taste. On the floor, especially woven to fit its borders, is a beautiful Aubusson carpet in floral design. The bed was copied, it is said, from a similar feature at Malmaison, Chateau of the Empress Josephine. Richly colored wood panel paintings adorn the upper portions of the walls, which are pastel green in shade. Much of the furniture is in the style of Louis XV, including several inlaid rosewood pieces made by Paul Sormani of Paris. A glass curio cabinet contains thirteen interesting groups of Dresden and Meissen china. One end of the room is paneled in flowered brocade. "

THIRD FLOOR GUEST ROOMS

Pink Room(East side)

Notes on: Used by Mr. Vanderbilt in the winter time. Furniture painted white with a pink "Minton" china wash stand set.

LITTLE MAUVE ROOM (Southeast Corner)

Oak furniture

EMPIRE ROOM (Southwest Corner)

Empire Period Furniture, walls covered with satin to match covering on furniture and bed.

WHITE ROOM (West Side)

Furniture painted white, draperies and upholstery are also white

OTHER SUITE ROOMS

1. Miss Hagnell's Room (next to Pink Room)
2. Housekeeper's Suite (2 rooms - Mrs. Smith, 1921 - 1928)
3. Rooms for four chambermaids (4 rooms)
4. Old Maid's Sewing Room (later used for Mrs. Van Allen's maid)
5. "Princess" Maid Room
6. Parlor Maid's Room
7. Kitchen Girl's Room
8. Sewing and Pressing Room
9. First Cook's Room
10. Second Cook's Room

BASEMENT OF MANSION

1. Servant's Hall, dining and recreation room
2. Guest Room for visiting valets
3. Vase Storage Room
4. Soap Closet
5. Trunk Room
6. Pressing Room
7. Day and Night Men's Room (to change clothes in)
8. Store Room
9. Third Butler's Room (Alfred Martin)
10. Second Butler's Room (Edward Nelson)
11. First Butler's Room (Henry Ballard)
12. Laundry (2 rooms)
13. Wine Cellar
14. Kitchen
15. Ice Room

VII. TREES (From NPS Master Plan)

The magnificent specimen trees on the mansion grounds may be ranked as a feature of interest in this area second only to the mansion itself with its sumptuous exotic appointments. Like the latter many of the trees have been imported from foreign lands where they are native. Thus the

trees themselves, some nature and some exotic, are truly in keeping with the character and motif of the estate. But more than this intimate harmony of relationship, the specimen trees account for much of the beauty, richness and stately character of the mansion grounds.)

? . . . Individually the specimens have considerable botanical interest and intrinsic beauty of form and habit of growth. In this connection the Ginkgo or Chinese maidenhair tree (tree no. 143 on the plan) is possibly the second largest individual of that species in the United States. The largest weeping beech (No. 137), burr oak (No. 121), and the great cucumber magnolia (No. 211) are exquisite representatives of their kind. . . . During the latter years of his life we are told that the late Frederick W. Vanderbilt frequented the trees for hours at a time, habitually standing motionless beneath them for long periods gazing pensively upward through their crowns against the sky . . .) (History - 1901; Platt Map - not much known of earlier)

^ The specimen trees represent 43 different species and varieties. Of this number 20 species are native to the Hyde Park, N. Y., 9 others are native elsewhere in the United States, and 14 are native to foreign countries, chiefly Europe and Asia.)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON VANDERBILT'S INTERVIEW

WITH MRS. FARLEY. MARCH "26 1911 259

Believes Bar Harbor Camp sold to Atwater Kent, 259

There was a large staff employed at the mansion during Mrs. Vanderbilt's lifetime, but after her death, Mr. Vanderbilt while not firing anyone in the mansion or on the estate, simply did not refill any positions as they were vacated. 259

On Mrs. Vanderbilt : She knew personally practically everybody in the village and had many agents who informed her of what was going on there. These included some of her employees, the doctors and ministers of the town. For example, she would go to the different ministers of Hyde Park and ask who was in trouble. She would then personally visit the family. If they were sick, she would call in a doctor and nurses; if poor, send coal and groceries. All that was necessary was for her to hear about it or for them to ask her for help. She sent many village people suffering from tuberculosis to Saranac Lake and paid all expenses. In her parties for the townspeople and children she would mingle with them and was very friendly. She took a personal interest in people. 259

At Christmas time she would leave with the minister of each church a blank order form. He would then ask each Sunday School teacher to send a note home with each child asking what the child needed. When

this information was returned, it was entered on the blank form and Mrs. Vanderbilt paid for the whole order. In addition to this (which usually consisted of necessities) each child also received a toy from Mrs. Vanderbilt. She also provided each year a Community Christmas tree at the Town Hall (besides her parties which were in the papers). Mrs. Vanderbilt would drive about town on Christmas Day with her (believed to be) cousin, Mr. Hessltime, who dressed as Santa Claus in a large sleigh loaded with toys. She would stop each child she met on the street and ask what he wanted for Christmas. The child was given what he asked for; or if she did not have it, something as near as possible to it. 259

On Thanksgiving, Mrs. Vanderbilt gave each of her married men employees a turkey; all single men received \$5.00. 259

At Christmas, Mrs. Vanderbilt gave all married men employees with children, \$50.00 each year. 259

Mrs. Vanderbilt died in 1926. Mrs. Farley believed that she was 82, but she was very spry and did not appear to be that old. All these benefits stopped at her death. 259

On Mr. Vanderbilt: He was very reserved, impartial but just. Very kind and polite if one accidentally met him. He gave all orders and did all talking to employees through Mr. Shears, Supt. of the estate. Mr. Vanderbilt never threw anything away. She believed that Mr. Vanderbilt did not continue Mrs. Vanderbilt's good deeds simply because he did not know about them, not because he was "tight". She believed Mr. Shears was very tight; ardent in saving money for Mr. Vanderbilt. 259

At Christmas, Mr. Vanderbilt gave \$10.00 to all ground employees and \$50.00 to each male house employee. Women house employees received gifts at Christmas time from the housekeeper. These gifts were kept up till Mr. Vanderbilt's death in 1938. 259

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON VANDERBILT'S YACHTS

(From Lloyd's Register Of Yachts, 1910 - 1911 - leather cover stamped with Gold letters - "Frederick W. Vanderbilt". Book in V.M.)

The Conqueror, iron yacht - 526 tons, built at Glasgow 1889; Builders: Russell & Co.; Designer - W. Connel; Length; 188'03"; width: 28' 6"; depth: 13' 5". Note: Books on north wall in balcony of butler's pantry, Mansion, are in part from the Conqueror's library Many stamped as such.)

The Warrior. steel yacht, twin screw; length 255' 3"; width: 32' 7"; depth: 17' 9". Builders: Ailsa S. B. Co.; Designer: G. L. Watson, 1904. 1266 tons.

Notes: on Third Floor Mansion, in White Guest Room, there is a 5 or 6 piece green leather desk set with "Warrior" on each piece in silver letters, this is probably from that yacht. 377

The Vedette: (From Lloyd's Register of Yacht, 1936 - (Vanderbilt's - Book name in gold letters stamped on cover). Vedette, twin screw steel yacht, in Y.M. 458 tons; length: 158' 6"; width: 26' 1"; depth: 11'. Builder; Burmeister & Wain, 7 months, 1924 at Copenhagen. Designer: Cox & Stevend. (Mr. Newman - The Captain of the Vedette was Mr. Winifield S Treworgy of Maine, 22 men were employed as the crew of the Vedette.) 374

Vanderbilt Mansion: On third floor hall of Vanderbilt's Mansion, at south end of hall leading to guests rooms, is a large framed photograph of mansion dated 1898. Shows the east side of mansion, outside complete, building appears empty inside. 377

Bar Harbor. Maine Camp: From "Who's Who at the Leading Watering Place in Maine"- 1919 (book in Mr. Vanderbilt's Study), p. 125: "Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt, Bar Harbor, "Cornfield," Eden Street." On or facing page 109 is a photograph of "Cornfield".

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON THE FREDERICK W. VANDERBILTS
FROM THE POUGHKEEPSIE SUNDAY COURIER, MARCH 1924 to
JUNE 29, 1938.

Hyde Park Guests:

PSC-June 8, 1924, p.7 - Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt are entertaining over the weekend at their Hyde Park estate Prince Valdemar, uncle of King Christian I of Denmark, and Prince Valdemar's son, the Prince Viggo. The royal party arrived at Hyde Park late yesterday afternoon by motor.

Other Guests at Other Places:

PSC-February 22, 1925, p.7- Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt gave a luncheon at Sherrys last week, for the Duchess of Manchester and her daughter Lady Louisa Montague and Countess Greforini Bingham and her son, Count Gioranni Gregorini Bingham, all of whom arrived on the Olympic.

PSC- March 1, 1925, p.17- Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt gave a dinner on February 21 followed by dancing for Lady Louisa Montague, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Manchester. The guests at the dinner, which was given at the Madison, were seated at a table built around a miniature sunken garden. Carnations of a variety of colors were used for decorations of the table and room. Among the 40 guests at the dinner were the Duchess of Manchester and Mrs. Thomas H. Howard and Mr. and Mrs. T.H. Howard.

The Sinking of the Yacht "Vedette" - 1925:

PSC, February 1, 1925, p.14- Vanderbilt Yacht Goes to Bottom. Hyde Park Man's Vessel Costing \$250,000 Sinks in Brooklyn Basin:

Frederick W. Vanderbilt's sea-going yacht "Vedette" sank from an unknown cause at its mooring at Flat-bush Ave., Brooklyn. The "Vedette" had been moored in the basin of the Briggs Engineering Company since last October. No one was on board. A watchman early in the morning found the "Vedette" half underwater and wrecking companies sent squads of men to start raising the vessel.

Mr. Vanderbilt went on a cruise aboard the "Vedette" last summer. The yacht is 165 feet long and 25 feet of beam. She cost approximately \$250,000.

The Frederick W. Vanderbilts and the People of Hyde Park

PSC, June 28, 1925, p.32- Hyde Park planning for annual village excursion on Wednesday which is periodically helped by Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt's donation.

PSC, August 1, 1926, p.24- Hyde Park: 380 villagers went on annual excursion to Sunset Park.

Philanthropy of Frederick W. Vanderbilt:

PSC, February 22, 1925, p.9- Frederick W. Vanderbilt gives \$100,000 for Cathedral of St. John the Divine; Vincent Astor of Rhinebeck also gives \$100,000

Death of Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt, August 20, 1926, Paris:

PSC- August 22, 1926, p.27- Mrs. Vanderbilt Dies in Paris. Hyde Park Resident Fails To Rally from Operation Performed July 18.

Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt of Hyde Park, prominent society woman, died in Paris, France, Friday night(August 20) according to word received by relatives at Newport, R.I., where she was a social leader. Mrs. Vanderbilt died as the result of a operation performed July 18. She is the wife of Frederick W. Vanderbilt, well known capitalist.

The Vanderbilts have maintained a handsome estate at Hyde Park for more than thirty years. Mrs. Vanderbilt and her husband were accustomed to spend some part of each year there. They also had homes at 459 Fifth Avenue(this is incorrect-1025 Fifth Ave.), New York City, and at Newport, R.I.(this is also incorrect- they had a home at this time at Bar Harbor, Maine).

Fails to Rally:

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt sailed for Europe July 8. They established a residence near Paris, and planned a motor tour of Europe which was to take two months. Mrs. Vanderbilt underwent a operation, from which she failed to recover as was expected. Her health remained poor till Friday, when a change for the worst took place. Mr. Vanderbilt was with her at the time of her death.

....Mrs. Vanderbilt, formerly Miss. Louise Anthony, was a member of an old and prominent family. Her first marriage was to Alfred Torrence. She was married to Mr. Vanderbilt in 1880....

Vanderbilt Gifts and Relations with Poughkeepsie, N.Y.- Regatta Funds:

PSC, June 14, 1925, p.9-Frederick W. Vanderbilt donates \$100 to regatta fund.

PSC, May 29, 1927, p.7- Frederick W. Vanderbilt donates \$100 to regatta fund.

PSC, June 19, 1932,p.15- Frederick W. Vanderbilt donates \$200 to regatta fund.

PSC, June 19, 1935,p.2- F. W. Vanderbilt donates \$100 to regatta fund.

PSC, June 7, 1936, p.2- F. W. Vanderbilt donates \$100 to regatta fund.

PSC, June 6, 1937, p.1- F. W. Vanderbilt donates \$100 to regatta fund.

Frederick W. Vanderbilt and the Dutchess County Fair:

PSC, August 31, 1924, p.7, p.15, p.18- F. W. Vanderbilt enters Fair, wins prizes for poultry, vegetables, apples, horses and Jersey Cattle.

PSC, August 28, 1928, p3-F.W. Vanderbilt enters Fair, wins prizes for vegetables.

PSC, September 1, 1929, p.28- F. W. Vanderbilt enters Fair, wins prizes for Plums, Pears, and Jersey cattle.

PSC, August 31, 1930, p.25, F.W. Vanderbilt enters Fair, wins prizes for apples, vegetables, poultry, and Jersey cattle.

PSC, September 6, 1931, p.24-F.W. Vanderbilt enters Fair, wins prizes for Vegetables, PSC, September 13, 1931, p.19- wins prizes for poultry

Frederick W. Vanderbilt's Hyde Park Estate

Operation of the Vanderbilt Estate: Notes:

PSC, December 11, 1932, p.15- Hyde Park: The working forces on some of the local estates have been reduced. In fact, all of the unmarried men on the Vanderbilt estate have been laid off.

PSC, June 20, 1937, p.32- Hyde Park: Alec MacLain of Long Island has been chosen as the new gardener on the Frederick W. Vanderbilt estate. He and Mrs. MacLain have moved into the Gardener's cottage.

PSC, July 24, 1938, p.17- Frederick W. Vanderbilt Estate to Close.(mansion, park and farm workers were given notice of dismissal late this week. The staff of house workers will go except for a day and a night watchman. Only a skeleton crew will be kept on the park to mow the grass and tend the walks, while "only what is underway" would be attempted on the farm.)

Frederick W. Vanderbilt's Income Tax for 1924:

PSC, September 6, 1925, p.17- Many Residents of Dutchess Country Figure In List Of Heavy Income Tax Payers: Vincent Astor, \$642,600; Frederick W. Vanderbilt, \$792,986; Archibald Rogers, \$7,852; Sara D. Roosevelt, \$5,902...

Footnotes:

BSB means Braman's Scrap Book.

NYT means New York Times.

PSC means Poughkeepsie Sunday Courier.

SDR means Sara Delano Roosevelt's Diary.

1. This sketch of F.W. Vanderbilt's life is based on obituaries in the NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23, and the PSC, July 3, 1938, p.27.
2. Education:, Ibid. and Andrews, Wayne, The Vanderbilt Legend, The Story of the Vanderbilt Family, 1794 - 1940, N.Y., 1941. p.320.
3. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23 and PSC, July 3, 1938, p.27.
4. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, pp.329-330.
5. Ibid., p.327.
6. Ibid., p.327.
7. Ibid., p.327; also PSC, Sept. 6, 1925, p.17.
8. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.328.
9. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23.
10. Ibid. and PSC July 3, 1938, p.27.
11. NYT Oct. 4, 1939, p.21; also in Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.329.
12. NYT Oct.4, 1939, p.21, all figures.
13. Will of F. W. Vanderbilt: see Abstract of Title to Premises of which Frederick W. Vanderbilt died seized and Possessed. Situated in the Town of Hyde Park; Dutchess County; State of New York. To be Conveyed Conveyed to the United States of America. p.250. Also in PSC July 17, 1938, p.3; NYT Oct.4, 1939, p.21; and Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.329. I have arrived at the figures given in the text by dividing the residue estate of \$20,548,989 by the number of shares left to legates under the will.
14. N.Y.T. Oct.4, 1939, p.21.
15. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, pp.329-330.
16. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23.
17. PSC, Nov.23, 1902, p.5.

18. PSC, Jan.25, 1903, p.5.
19. PSC, Dec.6, 1908, p.10.
20. PSC, May 16, 1909, p.8.
21. PSC, March 20, 1910, p.9.
22. NYT, July 9, 1913, p.9.
23. NYT, Dec. 11, 1914, p.14.
24. NYT, Feb. 2, 1929, p.18.
25. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
26. Will of F. W. Vanderbilt, Abstract of Title.....p.250.
27. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.326.
28. Will of F. W. Vanderbilt, in Abstract of Title...., p.250.
29. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
30. NYT, Dec. 7, 1927, p.22.
31. NYT, May 25, 1918, p.4.
32. NYT, Dec. 7, 1922, p.19.
33. NYT, Jan. 25, 1925, also PSC, FEB. 22, 1925, p.9.
34. NYT, Jan. 17, 1926, p.8.
35. NYT, Nov.5, 1926, p.23- Will of Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt; also in Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.327.
36. NYT, Nov.13, 1931, p.17.
37. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23.
38. Will of F.W. Vanderbilt, Abstract of Title...p.250.
39. Ibid.
40. References for this section: PSC, Nov.18, 1906, p.7; PSC, Dec, Dec. 1, 1908, p.5; NYT, Nov.28, 1913, p.5; PSC, Nov/ 28, 1915. p.11; NYT, Nov/30, 1917, p.9; NYT, Nov. 25, 1921, p.17; PSC, Dec. 4, 1921, p.8; and NYT, Nov. 30, 1923,p.17.
41. PSC, Dec.6, 1914, p.26.

42. This section is based on information taken from the society notes of the PSC from 1895 to 1926. This information has been correlated for each year and the pattern of life set out in the text emerges as a result of this study.
43. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
44. NYT, Dec.4, 1914, p.8; also references to No.459 Town House, PSC, Oct. 19, 1902, p.8; PSC, Dec. 13, 1903, p. 8; PSC, Oct.28, 1906, p.8.
45. Will of F. W. Vanderbilt in Abstract of Title...,p.250.
46. PSC, Nov.9, 1913, p.11.
47. PSC, May 10, 1914, p.8; PSC, June 28, 1914, p.11.
48. NYT, Oct. 7, 1914, p.9; also Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
49. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
50. Ibid.
51. PSC, Dec. 21, 1919, p.16.
52. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23.
53. NYT, Jan. 18, 1939, p.37.
54. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.324, citing N.Y. Tribune, Aug.12, 1891.
55. BSB, Vol.5, p.83-Sept. 22, 1899; PSC, July 28, 1901, p.8.
56. PSC, May 27, 1900, p.3; PSC, June 22, 1902, p.7.
57. PSC, Sept. 21, 1902, p.7; PSC, June 14, 1903, p.8; PSC, Aug. 2, 1903, p.8; In Europe, 1904, see PSC Sept. 25, 1904, p.8; PSC, Sept.10 1905, p.8; In Europe 1906, see PSC, Sept. 30, 1906, p.8.
58. PSC, Dec. 9, 1906, p.2; also Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.324.
59. PSC, Sept. 21, 1902, p.7; PSC, June 14, 1903, p.8; PSC, Sept.10, 1905, p.8.
60. PSC, Aug. 2, 1903, p.8.
61. PSC, Aug. 4, 1907, p.8; PSC, Aug. 18, 1907, p.8; PSC, Sept. 8, 1907, p.8.
62. See file of PSC for these years; in Europe most of these years.
63. PSC, Sept. 21, 1913, p.3.
64. PSC, June 28, 1914, p.11-sail for Europe; PSC, Aug. 30, 1914, p.3-return to United States from Europe.

65. PSC, Aug. 1, 1915, p.14; PSC, Sept. 12, 1915, p.11.
66. PSC, Sept. 17, 1916, p.12- at Bar Harbor; PSC, Oct.3, 1920, p.18;
PSC, Oct. 5, 1924, p.12.
67. Wire recording #11, p. 2 of transcript, Interview of Superintendent
George A. Palmer with Mr. Alfred E. Martin.
68. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23.
69. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
70. PSC, June 23, 1895, p.7.
71. PSC, April 7, 1901, p.7.
72. PSC, March 1, 1903, p.8.
73. PSC, Nov. 15, 1903, p.2.
74. PSC, Nov. 15, 1903, p.2.
75. PSC, Dec. 18, 1904, p.15.
76. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325; NYT, Jan. 29, 1914, p.1, states ship
insured for \$250,000; PSC, July 3, 1938, p.27 says yacht is reported to
have cost \$500,000.
77. PSC, March 27, 1904, p.8.
78. PSC, June 26, 1904, p.8.
79. SDR's Diary, July 18, 1905; PSC, July 23, 1905, p.3.
80. PSC, Sept. 30, 1906, p.8.
81. PSC, May 19, 1907, p.8; PSC, June 23, 1907, p.8.
82. PSC, June 7, 1908, p.8; PSC, Aug. 2, 1908, p.8.
83. PSC, May 16, 1909, p.8.
84. PSC, Feb. 20, 1910, p.8; PSC, March 6, 1910, p.8; PSC, March 13, 1910, p.8.
85. PSC, Sept. 25, 1910, p.8.
86. PSC, Jan. 22, 1911, p.8; PSC, April 9, 1911, p.8.
87. PSC, Oct. 13, 1912, p.11.
88. PSC, May 18, 1913, p.11; PSC, Nov. 2, 1913, p.7.
89. PSC, April 14, 1907, p.8.

90. NYT, Dec. 24, 1913, p.11.
91. NYT, Jan.28, 1914, p.1; NYT, Jan. 29, 1914, p.1.
92. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23; PSC, July 3, 1938, p.27.
93. NYT, Jan. 30, 1914, p.1; NYT, Jan.31, 1914, p.1; NYT, Feb.1, 1914, II, p.9; NYT, Feb. 2, 1914, p.3; NYT, Feb. 7, 1914, p.4; Feb. 8, 1914, II, p.3-NYT; NYT, Feb. 11, 1914, p.11; NYT, Feb. 14, 1914, p.7; Feb. 24, 1914, p.5-NYT; NYT, March 24, 1914, p.5.
94. NYT, April 22, 1914, p.10.
95. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
96. PSC, May 23, 1915, p.26; PSC, Aug. 1, 1915, p.14; PSC, Sept. 12, 1915, p.11.
97. See Vanderbilt Mansion(VM) Research Card #1108.
98. PSC, March 26, 1916, p.2; PSC, Sept. 17, 1916, p.12.
99. PSC, Jan. 14, 1923, p.7.
100. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.325.
101. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23 and PSC, July 3, 1938, p.27 both put the cost of the yacht at \$1,000,000, however PSC, Feb. 1, 1925, p.15 says yacht cost more than \$250,000.
102. NYT, June 15, 1924, p.29; NYT, Aug. 14, 1924, p.3.
103. NYT, Jan. 23, 1925, p.7 and PSC, Feb. 1, 1925, p.14.
104. Alfred Martin, Wire recording #11, p.2 of transcript; PSC, Oct. 5, 1924, p.12.
105. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, p.315.
106. Ibid., p.319; NYT, Sept. 18, 19, 21, 23, and 26, 1934; also PSC for same period. NYT, June 30, 1938, p.23.
107. PSC, July 2, 1899, p.3, p.8; PSC, Sept. 29, 1901, p.7; PSC, Oct.7,1906,p.9.
108. PSC, Dec. 22, 1901, p.3; PSC, April 20, 1902, p.7; PSC, May 11, 1902, p.8; PSC, Nov. 30, 1902, p.8; PSC, Feb. 21, 1904, p.7; PSC, April 24,1904, p.6. PSC, Oct. 7, 1904, p.2; PSC, March 4, 1906, p.3; PSC, March 11, 1906,p.7; PSC, June 18, 1911, p.7.
109. PSC, Feb. 3, 1901, p.7; Feb. 17, 1901, p.3-PSC; PSC, April 17,1901,p.7.
110. PSC, Nov. 30, 1902, p.8.
111. PSC, Dec. 6, 1903, p.7.

112. PSC, Oct. 23, 1904, p.2.
113. PSC, March 11, 1906, p.7; PSC, April 8, 1906, p.6; PSC, Jan.3, 1909,p.6.
114. PSC, July 18, 1915, p.3.
115. PSC, Aug. 22, 1915, p.8.
116. PSC, Jan. 7, 1912, p.6
117. PSC. Dec. 5, 1915, p.2.
118. PSC, Jan. 26, 1919, p.3.
119. PSC, April 8, 1917, p.3; PSC, June 10, 1917, p.19; PSC, Nov.17, 1917,p.7;
PSC, Feb. 16, 1919, p.5.
120. For detailed listing from PSC, see VM Research Cards #1063 and 1064.
121. PSC, Nov. 29, 1896, p.3.
122. PSC, Jan. 4, 1920, p.16.
123. PSC, March 11, 1906, p.7.
124. PSC, March 11, 1906, p.7.
125. PSC, March 29, 1896, p.5; PSC, May 10, 1896, p.3; May 17, 1896, p.7-PSC.
126. PSC, May 1, 1898, p.3; PSC, May 8, 1898, p.6; PSC, June 5, 1898, p.3;
PSC, June 12, 1898, p.3.
127. PSC, July 3, 1898, p.7; June 26, 1898, p.7-PSC.
128. PSC, Dec. 25, 1898, p.7- see VM Research card #1062 for detailed listing
of articles in PSC.
129. PSC, Nov.19, 1899, p.7.
130. PSC, Dec. 27, 1903, p.7.
131. PSC, Dec. 6, 1903, p.5.
132. Wire Recording #7, Interview of Mr. Palmer with Mrs. Theresa P. Farley,
p. 1 of transcript.
133. PSC, Dec. 13, 1908, p.2; PSC, March 7, 1909, p.5.
134. PSC, Jan. 19, 1896, p.8- for detailed list of articles in PSC relating
to ice yachting, see VM Research Card # 1115.
135. PSC, March 1, 1896, p.7; PSC, June 17, 1897, p.5.

136. PSC, June 23, 1895, p.7.
137. PSC, June 24, 1923, p.9.
138. PSC, Dec. 31, 1911, p.13.
139. PSC, Oct. 12, 1919, p.19.
140. PSC, April 16, 1922, p.16.
141. PSC, Dec. 21, 1921, p.7.
142. NYT, May 20, 1926, p.37.
143. PSC, Jan. 19, 1896, p.8-see remarks under footnote #134.
144. PSC, Dec. 30, 1894, p.8; Jan. 6, 1895, p.3-PSC-these have good accounts of wealthy families of Hyde Park sleighting in that town.
145. PSC, Oct. 5, 1890; PSC, Sept. 21, 1891; PSC, Oct. 2, 1892; PSC, Oct. 23, 1892; PSC, Oct. 30, 1892; PSC, Nov. 13, 1892 for descriptions of Dutchess County Hunt Club in action.
146. PSC, Nov. 7, 1897, p.8; PSC, Nov. 6, 1898, p.7; PSC, Nov. 12, 1899, p.2,7; PSC, Nov. 11, 1900, pp. 7, 8; see VM Research cards #1002-1003 for detailed lisiting through 1913.
147. PSC, Nov. 2, 1913, p.5.
148. PSC, Sept. 21, 1919, p.22.
149. PSC, Sept. 3, 1922, p.7; PSC, Sept. 2, 1923, pp. 9, 25.
150. PSC, July 28, 1895, p.5.
151. PSC, Oct. 6, 1895, p.7.
152. PSC, May 14, 1899, p.3.
153. PSC, Dec. 7, 1899, p.7; also PSC, Dec. 10, 1899, p.2.
154. PSC, Sept. 23, 1900, p.6.
155. PSC, Oct. 28, 1900, p.3; Who's Who in America, 1906-1907, Vol.IV, p.1354.
156. SIR's Diary, Nov. 16, 1900; also PSC, Nov. 18, 1900, p.3; PSC, Nov. 25, 1900, p.7.
157. PSC, Dec. 9, 1900, p. 8.
158. PSC, June 2, 1901, p.8.

159. BSB, Vol. 5, p.109-June 1, 1901; Who's Who In America, 1906-7, p.183.
160. PSC, Nov. 9, 1902, p.8.
161. PSC, Oct. 23, 1904, p.2.
162. PSC, Nov. 6, 1904, p.8.
163. SDR's Diary, July 18, 1905; Oct. 8, 1905.
164. PSC, Oct. 15, 1905, p.2.
165. PSC, Nov. 19, 1905, p.6.
166. PSC, Dec. 3, 1905, p.8.
167. PSC, May 20, 1906, p.8.
168. PSC, Oct. 13, 1907, p.8.
169. PSC, Nov. 10, 1908, p.8.
170. SDR's Diary, Dec. 6, 1907.
171. PSC, May 24, 1908, p.8.
172. SDR's Diary, May 23, 1908.
173. Who's Who in America, 1906-7, p.1799.
174. SDR's Diary, Nov. 5, 1908.
175. PSC, May 8, 1910, p.8; also PSC, March 6, 1910, p.8.
176. SDR's Diary, May 27, 1911.
177. PSC, May 10, 1914, p.8.
178. PSC, June 25, 1916, p.14.
179. PSC, Aug. 4, 1907, p.8; PSC, Aug. 18, 1907, p.8; PSC, Sept. 8, 1907, p.8.
180. Andrews, Vanderbilt Legend, pp. 338, 220, 237, 256, 338-339, 358.
181. Ibid., p.338.
182. PSC, Feb. 20, 1910, p.8; PSC, March 6, 1910, p.8.
183. PSC, Jan. 22, 1911, p.8; PSC, April 9, 1911, p.8.
184. PSC, June 23, 1912, p.11.
185. NYT, Dec. 24, 1913, p.11.

186. PSC, May 10, 1914, p.8.
187. PSC, June 28, 1914, p.11.
188. PSC, Sept. 17, 1916, p.12.
189. PSC. Dec. 21, 1919, p.16.
190. Who's Who in America, 1914-15, p.614.
191. Who's Who in America, 1918-19, p.2852.
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193. PSC, Jan. 14, 1923, p.7.
194. PSC, Sept. 23, 1894, p.8; also SDR's Diary, Sept. 17, 1894.
195. PSC, Oct. 28, 1894, p.3.
196. PSC, May 19, 1895, p.3; BSB, Vol. 5, p.6-May 25, 1895; also BSB, Vol. 5, p. 16-Dec. 16, 1895.
197. PSC, Aug. 4, 1895, pp. 4, 6.
198. PSC, Oct. 10, 1897, p.7.
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200. PSC, May 11, 1902, p.7.
201. PSC, Sept. 14, 1902, p.7.
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204. PSC, Dec. 13, 1908, p.2; PSC, March 7, 1909, p.5.
205. PSC, Oct. 15, 1905, p.3; also Abstract of Title...pp. 70-71.
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211. Ibid.
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224. Ibid., p.269.
225. PSC, Sept. 7, 1896, p.7.
226. PSC, July 19, 1896, p.7; BSB, Vol.5, p.34-July 25, 1896.
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228. PSC, Oct. 18, 1896, p.7; see also BSB, Vol. 5, p.37-Sept. 26, 1896.
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230. PSC, Dec. 6, 1896, p.7.
231. PSC, Dec. 20, 1896, p.3.
232. PSC, April 11, 1897, p.3; PSC, June 27, 1897, p.3.
233. PSC, Dec. 27, 1896, p.7.
234. PSC, Jan. 17, 1897, p.3.
235. ~~PSC~~ BSE, Vol.5, p.48-April 9, 1897.
236. PSC, March 21, 1897, p.7.
237. PSC, March 27, 1897, p.3.
238. PSC, May 2, 1897, p.5.

239. PSC, May 23, 1897, p.3.
240. BSB. Vol. 5, p.51, June 4, 1897.
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244. PSC, Sept. 12, 1897, p.3.
245. PSC, Sept. 26, 1897, p.3.
246. PSC, Nov. 7, 1897, p.3.
247. PSC, April 17, 1898, p.3.
248. PSC, July 31, 1898, p.8.
249. PSC, Sept. 4, 1898, p.3.
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251. PSC, Dec. 4, 1898, p.13.
252. BSB, Vol. 5, p.75-March 10, 1899.
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255. PSC, July 1, 1900, p.7.
256. PSC, Feb. 22, 1903, p.7.
257. PSC, Aug. 26, 1906, p.7.
258. Wire Recording #11, Interview of Mr. Palmer with Mr. Alfred E. Martin.
259. Interview with Mrs. Theresa P. Farley and Mr. Charles W. Snell, March 26, 1954.
260. Wire recording #7, Interview of Mr. Palmer with Mrs. T.P. Farley, p.1 of transcript.
261. Wire recording #10, Interview of Mr. Palmer with Mr. A. E. Martin.
262. Interview of Mr. Palmer with Mr. Herbert C. Shears, Aug. 2, 1945, VM Research Card #1022.
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264. PSC, July 19, 1896, p.2.
265. PSC, Sept. 15, 1895, p.9.
266. PSC, June 2, 1895, p.3.
267. PSC, June 23, 1895, p.5.
268. PSC, Aug. 4, 1895, p.6.
269. PSC, Aug. 18, 1895, p.3.
270. PSC, Sept. 1, 1895, p.3.
271. PSC, Sept. 8, 1895, p.7.
272. PSC, Oct. 20, 1895, p.3.
273. PSC, Nov. 10, 1895, p.3; PSC, Nov. 17, 1895, p.3.
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277. PSC, Dec. 29, 1895, p.2.
278. PSC, Jan. 12, 1896, p.3.
279. PSC, March 1, 1896, p.7.
280. PSC, March 8, 1896, p.7.
281. PSC, May 3, 1896, p.7.
282. PSC, May 17, 1896, p.7; PSC, May 31, 1896, p.3.
283. PSC, June 21, 1896, p.3.
284. BSB, Vol. 5, p.90- May 25, 1897.
285. PSC, July 19, 1896, p.2.
286. PSC, July 11, 1920, p.18.
287. PSC, July 19, 1896, p.7; BSB, Vol. 5, p.34-July 25, 1896.
288. PSC, Sept. 7, 1896, p.7.
289. PSC, Sept. 13, 1896, p.3.
290. PSC, Oct. 18, 1896, p.7; BSB, Vol.5, p.37-Sept. 26, 1896.

291. PSC, Oct. 25, 1896, p.7.
292. PSC, Nov. 8, 1896, p.2.
293. PSC, Dec. 20, 1896, p.3.
294. PSC, Dec. 27, 1896, p.7; also PSC, Dec. 6, 1896, p.7.
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296. PSC, March 28, 1897, p.3.
297. PSC, March 21, 1897, p.7.
298. PSC, May 2, 1897, p.5.
299. PSC, Nov. 7, 1897, p.5.
300. PSC, Jan. 17, 1897, p.3.
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305. PSC, Aug. 4, 1895, p.6.
306. PSC, June 20, 1897, p.3.
307. PSC, Oct. 3, 1897, p.3.
308. PSC, Nov. 21, 1897, p.7.
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310. PSC, Dec. 7, 1897, p.7.
311. PSC, May 1, 1898, p.3.
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313. PSC, June 27, 1897, p.3
314. PSC, Aug. 15, 1897, p.7; BSB, Vol.5, p.53-Aug.21, 1897; PSC, Sept.26,1897, p.3.
315. PSC, Oct.10, 1897, p.7.
316. PSC, Nov. 7, 1897, p.8.

317. PSC, March 27, 1898, p.7.
318. PSC, June 5, 1898, p.3.
319. PSC, Aug. 3, 1902, p.7.
320. PSC, Dec. 4, 1898, p.13.
321. PSC, July 31, 1898, p.7.
322. PSC, April 3, 1898, p.7.
323. PSC, June 26, 1898, p.7.
324. PSC, Sept. 25, 1898, p.3.
325. See page 17 of this report and also footnote #126.
326. BSB, Vol.5, p.73-Jan. 10, 1899; PSC, Feb. 5, 1899, p.7; PSC, March 10, 1899, p.7; PSC, July 30, 1899, p.3.
327. BSB, Vol.5, p.74-Feb. 17, 1899; PSC, Feb. 17, 1899, p.5; PSC, Feb. 26, 1899, p.7; PSC, March 12, 1899, p.7.
328. PSC, July 16, 1899, p.3.
329. BSB, Vol.5, p.83-5- Nov. 24, 1899.
330. BSB, Vol.5, p.85-6-Dec. 12, 1899.
331. PSC, Jan. 28, 1900, p.3.
332. Interview of Mr. Palmer with Mr. H. C. Shears, Aug. 2, 1945, VM Research Card # 1001.
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337. PSC, July 7, 1901, p.7; PSC, July 21, 1901, p.3; PSC, Aug. 4, 1901, p.7; PSC, Aug. 25, 1901, p.7; PSC, Oct.13, 1901, p.7; also PSC, Dec.1,1901,p.3.
338. PSC, Aug. 25, 1901, p.7.
339. PSC, Oct. 27, 1901, p.7.
340. PSC, Aug. 3, 1902, p.7.
341. Interview, Mr. Palmer and Mr. Shears, Aug. 2, 1945-VM Research card #1001.

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344. PSC, July 26, 1903, p.3.
345. Interview: Mr. Palmer & Mrs. Shears, Aug.2, 1945-VM Research Card #1001.
346. PSC, Oct. 15, 1905, pp.3, 5.
347. PSC, Oct. 29, 1905, p.7.
348. PSC, Dec. 3, 1905, p.5.
349. PSC, April 8, 1906, p.6.
350. PSC, Sept. 16, 1906, p.6.
351. PSC, May 27, 1906, p.9.
352. PSC, Aug. 26, 1906, p.7.
353. PSC, Oct. 14, 1906, p.3.
354. Interview: Mr. Palmer & Mr. Shears, Aug. 2, 1945, VM Research Card #1001.
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356. PSC, April 28, 1907, p.3.
357. PSC, Dec. 6, 1908, p.7.
358. PSC, March 28, 1909, p.5; also PSC, Dec. 13, 1908, p.2.
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362. PSC. April 12, 1914, p.7.
363. PSC, June 7, 1914, p.15.
364. PSC, Jan. 10, 1915, p.3.
365. PSC, April 23, 1916, p.4.
366. PSC, March 18, 1917, p. 22.
367. PSC, Feb. 3, 1918, p.26.
368. PSC, Jan. 6, 1918, p.6.